

"Being single is an advantage"

SINGLE ADVANTAGE — Cherry Faile, 37, a single missionary who works in public health in Nalerigu, Ghana, explains to a Ghanaian mother the medical records of the woman's child. Many local childhood diseases are easily controlled through immunizations and education. But a successful

program hinges on trust, which Faile develops through long days of patient conversation in area villages. Faile believes being single is an advantage in her work. "You don't have that constant pull, that feeling that you should be spending more time with your family," she said. (BP photo by Don Rutledge)

Native Baptist professor calls

In an impassioned plea as the Bible sionary movement a system of study leader for the Baptist Peace "perpetual paternalism." Today's In-Fellowship of North America summer conference July 1-6 in McMinnville, Oregon, Baptist seminary professor Bill Baldridge, a member of the Cherokee Nation, called on Baptists and other Christians to stop the "spiritual genocide" of Native peoples and to end the missionary movement among Indians in 1992.

"As a Native American Christian, I ask forgiveness for my years of silence. I've come to recognize my complicity (in the spiritual oppression of my people)," Baldridge told the annual gathering of Baptists from across the continent and around the world. He noted the Christian church too, is oppressed, fearing Native spirituality and "pulling guard duty for Jesus. The church seems afraid someone will steal Jesus and pro-claim he has come alive in their

The son of a Cherokee Baptist pastor, Baldridge called the mis-

dians are pressured by missionaries to give up their Native culture and dignity, he said: "Equality before God continues to be assured us in death. This is spiritual oppression. Today, 499 years after the first missionaries forced us into slavery, we continue to be oppressed. Baptist Christians, you are our oppressors. This is wrong. This is something Baptists can stop. Stop it. For us the missionary era has ended. Our spirits have been crushed by 10,000 humiliations and we will not walk that path any longer. We propose another alternative — stop the oppression now. Not 10 years from now. Not five years from now. Now. Bring the missionaries home.'

for halt to spiritual oppression

He pointed out that when Indian communities cannot or do not follow the white professional ministry model, they are labelled lazy, stupid, and non-supportive of the ministry of Christ. And yet, less than 15 percent of Native peoples are members of missionary churches. "Who will argue (that such a low membership) is reason to stay the cause (with the missionary model of church among Native peoples)? Who will argue that God cannot understand Cherokee or

Baldridge, professor of Native American Christian Ministries at Central Seminary in Kansas City, Kansas, is the only such professor in any seminary. The purpose of his post is to prepare Native Americans for full leadership in their churches and to foster appreciation for Indian cultural expressions of the Christian

Baldridge's dream is "clusters of Indian people grasping the gospel." He hopes for a future in which he could go to Baptist Indian churches and discover a "hotbed of Indian culture," where members say proudly, "this is the way we express the gospel." -

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Thursday, August 8, 1991

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Muslim converts set free after nine months in jail

By Art Toalston

CAIRO, Egypt (BP) — Three Muslim converts to Christianity have been freed after nine months in prison on charges of contempt for Islam and

threatening the unity of Egypt. The men were released July 13, according to sources inside Egypt.

Authorities gave no reason for suddenly freeing the men, an Egyptian Christian leader said. "Don't forget that we are under martial law easily arrested, easily released," he said. Egypt's state of emergency dates back to the 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat by Islamic extremists.

But the release of the three converts follows a letter-writing campaign to gyptian officials organized by Amnesty International and various Christian groups.

The campaign was fueled by

reports the men were beaten, drugged, tortured with electrical rods and cigarettes, hung by their wrists with handcuffs, and cursed in efforts to make them renounce their Christian faith during the initial months of their imprisonment. They were held in

Zaabal Industrial Prison on the outskirts of Cairo. The men are Mustafa Muhammad

solitary confinement in the Abu

Sa'id Al Sharkawi, 30; Muhammad Hussein Sallam, 25; and Hassan Muhammad Isma'eel Muhammad, 21. Their names often are spelled in different ways in various English-language reports. They converted to Christianity more than five years ago.

"They're in good shape, in good health (and) good faith," the Egyptian Christian leader said. "In their hearts they are believers.

Believers all over the world are called to witness, and (they) should be willing to pay the price for that."

No other Christians "that we know about" are in jail in Egypt for their faith, the leader added.

Charges of converting to Christianity and seeking to convert others were filed against the men last fall. Two were arrested Sept. 28 and the other on Oct. 9. The charges were dismissed in "security" court hearings Nov. 23 and Dec. 8. Charges of contempt for Islam and threatening Egypt's security were filed after the December hearing.

Government interior ministry of-ficials exercised their authority to keep the men in jail after hearings in March, May, and June.

Toalston writes for FMB.

Baptist block parties produce reachout IIIII acies

penetrate neighborhoods with the message of Jesus Christ, California Southern Baptists have retooled the customary block party into a vibrant outreach program.

"The block party is the most signifi-cant method we have for reaching the disenfranchised, the poor, and the un-churched," declared Tom Kelly, director of the California Southern Baptist Convention's Black Church Extension Department.

Mass picnic-style meals, concerts, clothing giveaways, and other ministries undergird many block par-

FRESNO, Calif. (BP) — To ties. Most vital to the effort, however, are personal witnessing and scripture distribution, said San Francisco Bay Area evangelism consultant Bill Sims.

> Last November, prior to the state convention's annual meeting in Bakersfield, more than 200 people accepted Christ and a church started as a result of a block party in the area. Plans are being made for a similar event next November to coincide with the 1991 annual meeting in Oakland.

> Most recently, members of Brister Memorial Baptist Church in Compton hosted in conjunction with a revival a day-long block party for 160 residents.

Meanwhile, other church members Memorial's pastor. shared the gospel door-to-door nearby. Neighborhoods in Sacramento, San Diego, Modesto, and other cities

"It could be one of the greatest tools we've had in California."

boast similar success stories.

"Evangelistic block parties and revival meetings work for us and we plan on conducting more in the cessful and far more inexpensive than future," said Bobby Cain, Brister revivals. Block parties generally cost

Sims, extensively involved with block parties since California Southern Baptists started using them nearly two years ago, said that percentage is sometimes even higher.

About 25 block parties have been held up and down the state with "miraculous" results, according to Sims: "We've seen literally tens of thousands come to Christ. It could be one of the greatest tools we've ever had in California."

The Bay Area evangelist also noted block parties are usually more sucless than \$500, he said.

Sims also blamed prejudice; block parties work effectively in white neighborhoods, but they've been primarily used in lower-income and ethnic/minority areas.

He stated a block party "opens the door" of the church to the surrounding community and "revolutionizes a church's ministry." That's part of the problem, he suggested.

However, Sims said block parties are useful evangelism and ministry tools that deserve consideration from all quarters of the church communi-ty. "We've not had a failure yet," he

SOUTHERN DAPTIST HISTORIUM UBRARY AND ARCHIVES

In 1914, L. P. Leavell addressed a be incomplete without training. problem that has haunted church Countless church leaders to leaders of every generation. He wrote in The New B.Y.P.U. Manual:

The burden of the church is inefficiency; a host of weak Christians who can't do anything for the Lord. The Lord's soldiers, but unable to handle a gun! The Lord's cavalry, but unable to ride a horse! The Lord's hallelujah chorus, but unable to raise a tune!... 'Our churches are boxes of unlighted boxes of unlighted candles How can we kin-

dle their latent powers?'
Leavell continued with the answer: "Training in church membership!" Today we would call it "Discipleship Training." Lucien E. Coleman Jr. in Baptist History and Heritage distinguishes between teaching and training. "Teaching is for those who want to know; training is for those who want to do." Teaching is said to

Countless church leaders today testify of the influence of church or discipleship training upon their lives. It's a pity to see apathetic attitudes upon a feature of church life that has been so valuable. Having to stand before a group and "give your part" was the rich training ground for public speaking for many church and school leaders. In the Lorena Church, it was once decreed that "BTU would begin 30 minutes after Alvie Gatewood's cows came up." While the timepiece may have been erratic, the important thing is that church train-

ing was going on.

Are we in danger of losing this valuable training field for the Lord's army? Do the candles remain

In many churches the Sunday night crowd is one fourth of the morning worshipers. Hopefully it's on the upswing. Discipleship Training had a 12 percent gain in enrollment in the

last decade; however, if you go back 25 years, there is a 50 percent loss of church members involved in church training. .Congratulations to Mose Dangerfield and staff — Mississippi leads all Southern states with 75 per-cent of our churches having Discipleship Training.

In every war, you have headstrong patriotic young men wanting to rush straight to the battlefield. This is more foolish than commendable. Without effective training, he would be sure to lose. Can a church afford to send out untrained members to do battle where it is not fought with carnal weapons, but spiritual wickedness and the cunning wiles of Satan? The whole armor of God is needed, and the soldier trained in its use, lest we have a child in King Arthur's armor or a baby with a two-edged sword. Train-

ing is essential to survival.

We have the candles. The fire is available. There is going to be a lot of darkness if the candles remain boxed.

"I KNOW WHAT THE PROBLEM IS, DAD. THESE PEOPLE'S QUESTIONS ARE ALL WRONG FOR YOUR ANSWERS!

Guest opinion . . .

Handbasket to hell alive and well

As close as I can figure it, America's morals started going downhill just about the time the silent light switch was introduced; about the same time we started hearing words like "congoleum," "double sink," "color television," "power steering," "permanent-press," and "drive-in window."

Without a clue that something might be wrong, most Americans have merrily tripped through the last three or four decades like lambs being led to the slaughter.

We've fallen for the cancer; we've adopted it as a way of life; we've set ourselves against anything or anyone who threatens to waylay us as we con-

tinue our nonstop journey to hell.

America's moral laxity has come about exactly as preachers have long

They prophesied that it would happen so gradually and so innocently that we wouldn't notice it. Our descent into the mire of national promiscuity would have a wonderful face of unspeakable beauty but a sting of

a hundred million vipers.

In our unquenchable lust for a "progressive democracy," we have taunted and laughed at those brazen enough to distance themselves from the masses, and we've adopted a sophisticated air of liberalities which is quick to put down their attempts to tell us that our proverbyial handbasket is perilously close to the end of its journey.

We label those who don't follow our recklessness. We sneer at them and we call them condescending names like "gook," "geek," "nerd," or whatever else might signal that they aren't a part of the program and are undeserving of recognition as a progressive-thinking 20th-century individual.

Sin is no longer a threat to most Americans.

We have rationalized and redefined our moral values to the point where sin is no longer a viable standard of measurement.

Somehow, we've "progressed" to the point where nothing embarrasses

We rent videos and we let our children rent videos that have noholds-barred sex scenes, and then we wonder why our society has so many

sex-related problems.

We allow Hollywood to glamorize the use of four-letter words to the point where we've adopted a rather nonchalant attitude toward our

nonchalant attitude toward our friends and children using words that, 20 or 30 years ago, would have been uttered only by low-life sleezeballs. We religiously watch soap operas that portray high-class white and black trash as they jump from one bed to the other and enter into marriage and divorce with less thought than many would give to buying a new car

We keep pop songs on the charts by purchasing tapes and listening to them even though they have lyrics that blatantly speak of illicit sex as vocalists sing of "feeling you inside me" amid guttural sounds normally associated with sexual release.

We have come to look at homosexuality with compassion, awarding homosexuals "red badges of misunderstanding" regardless of biblical warnings to the contrary.

We compromise the severity of crimes on the basis of the criminals' backgrounds, civil rights, and our states' prison facilities. And, in the name of humanitarian causes, we release our criminals to let them do more of their hideous works while wishing their victims luck.

We defend the rights of a woman, any woman, to decide the fate of her unborn child while puzzling about how America ever got to the point where it was so careless regarding the sanc-

tity of life.
We operate our businesses and pursue our pleasures seven days a week as we become less and less aware of any need for spiritual nourishment.

We look condescendingly toward anyone who points to the fact that our lifestyles are moving farther and far-ther away from what God intended them to be

We regard those who speak of God with caution and label them Biblethumping fanatics if they preach against the things we enjoy

We go on and on, seemingly void of the ability to see things in the larger perspective, where we've been and where we've headed.

We tune out any warnings of impending doom in the name of progressive thinking, and we call ourselves "koo" and "hep" and "keyed in" to contemporary life.

And we go on our reckless ways. We stand for what's wrong. We persecute right.

How far will we blindly go? Indeed, just how far will we be allowed to go?

Sikes is columnist for the Yazoo Herald.

Mad, sad, or glad

How much does it take to make you mad? Would the federal government paying \$49 million for a rock-and-roll museum do the trick? If you are still calm and natural, read on:

- \$500,000 to study the effects of cigarette smoking on dogs.

\$107,000 to study the mating habits of Japanese quail.

- \$19 million to study whether flatulence emitted by cows and other livestock damages the ozone layer.

— \$84,000 to study why people fall

\$50,000 to prove that sheep dogs

do, in fact, protect sheep.

— \$46,000 to determine how long it

takes to cook breakfast eggs. \$6.1 million in the search for ex-

traterrestrial life. \$219,592 to teach college students how to watch television.

\$2,500 to investigate the causes of rudeness, lying, and cheating on the tennis court.

The Citizens Against Government Waste, the Heritage Foundation, and the National Taxpayers Union assisted Dr. James C. Dobson in comgovernment waste, as reported by the American Family Association of

Some are still saying, "So what? We may have needed it." Sure, just like we needed to spend \$25,000 for a study to

locate the House of Representatives' gymnasium, \$350,000 to renovate the House beauty parlor (that ought to curl your hair), and \$100 million for franking privileges - even as our mail cost goes up.

The overflow from such spending helped in creating an anti-incumbent attitude and the taxpayers' revolt. Perhaps Sen. William E. Borah had read a similar list and in a speech to the Senate said, "The marvel of all history is the patience with which men and women submit to burdens unnecessarily laid upon them by their governments."

States, cities, and institutions are moaning in the agony of budget crunch. This has not escaped the religious world. If ever there was a crying need for fiscal integrity that day has arrived. Affluency has convinced many that the tap will never

I sat for a day and listened to godly men discuss Convention budget needs and our income. There again, I had reason to give thanks for those who wrestle with knotty, weary, seemingly unsolvable budgetary matters. piling these specific examples of Pray for our nation and for a revival of spiritual morality and integrity. Pray for our convention schools, Children's Village, camps, con-ferences, and the mission outreach that we, too, will feel the wind of

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The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Published Since 1877

Baptist Center for Ethics not counter, but new voice

By Herb Hollinger

NASHVILLE (BP) - A new voice, not a counter voice . . . not an antieverything . . . filling a vacuum in Southern Baptist life . . . openness, integrity, and compassion.

Those were some of the descriptions given the new Baptist Center for Ethics by organizers at a news conference in Nashville July 30. The new ethics agency was formed, organizers said, to fill a "vacuum covering New

Testament ethics in Baptist ranks."
The "vacuum" was one way of referring to what organizers said was their disagreement with the Christian Life Commission and its "limited

Dissatisfaction with the CLC was visibly apparent as Robert M. Parham, who has resigned as an associate director of the CLC, was introduced as the BCE's executive director. Parham announced his resignation from the CLC July 26, effective Sept. 1. Parham, 38, has been with the SBC ethics agency for six and a half years and was interim executive director for four months in

Although BCE organizers hope to have a relationship with the new Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, official ties have not been established, according to Joel Snider, chairman of the agency's board of directors.

Snider is pastor of the Crievewood Church in Nashville. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship was formed last

year by moderate Southern Baptists dissatisfied with the current SBC leadership. Bill Sherman, pastor of the Wood-mont Church in Nashville, is a

member of the Fellowship's coordinating council and a director of the new Center for Ethics. The Woodmont Church was the site for the news conference.

The new agency has a threefold agenda, according to Parham: (1) to call Baptists and others back to basics personal ethics and character development; (2) concentrate on consensus issues — caring for the hungry, strengthening families, fighting substance abuse, promoting integrity in the marketplace and fostering racial and ethnic reconciliation; and (3) challenge Baptists to face the complex and cutting edge issues, like health care, endangerment of the earth, and medical ethics, with intelligence and compassion.

The BCE will seek contributions from churches and individuals, hoping to raise \$25,000 by September and \$100,000 for 1992, Snider said.

Currently the group has about \$10,000 in cash and commitments, said Snider. Parham's salary and benefits package will be \$45,000.

Listed as members of the board of directors are: Nancy Ammerman, Emory University, Atlanta; Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler, Mt. Carmel Church, Cincinnati; James Denison,

First Church, Midland, Texas; Carolyn Dipboye, First Church, Oak Ridge, Tenn.; Gene Garrison, First Church, Oklahoma City; John Hewett, First Church, Asheville, N.C.; Vickie Hollon, Wornall Road Church, Kansas City, Mo.; David Hull, First Church, Laurens, S.C.; Raymond Lloyd, First Church, Starkville, Miss.; Gene Lovelace, Immanuel Church, Nashville; Emmanuel McCall, Christian Fellowship Church, Atlanta; William Nelson, Riverchase Church, Birmingham, Ala.; Sherman, and

Three directors are to be appointed by the ethics and public policy ministry group of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Several additional directors are to be named later.

Associates listed are: Carolyn Blevins, assistant professor of religion, Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.; Furman Hewitt, professor of Christian ethics, Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.; Ray Higgins, assistant professor of Christian ethics, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; Mark Johnson, pastoral counselor, East Tennessee Baptist Hospital, Knox-ville, Tenn.; Jim Johnson, pastor, First Church, Sarasota, Fla.; Andrew Manis, assistant professor of religion, Averett College, Danville, Va.; Penny Marler, faculty, Hartford Seminary, Hartford, Conn.; Dan McGee, pro-(See ETHICS on page 7)



BMH trustees meet in Memphis

The board of trustees for Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc. met July 16 at ne system's flagship institution, Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis. The system is owned by Southern Baptists in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee, who elect nine trustees from each state to make policy and approve budgets. Besides BMH-Memphis, the system also includes 13 other regional hospitals in the tri-state area. Two Mississippi trustees are pictured with the president and the chairman of the board. Left to right are Eddie Hamilton, president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and pastor of Oak Forest Church, Jackson; Bill Causey, executive director-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Clarence Stanford, chairman of the board, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc.; Joseph H. Powell, president, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc.

July gifts near \$2 million

Mississippi Baptists gave nearly \$2 same period of 1990. And the total million through their Cooperative Program during the month of July, according to an announcement by Bill Causey, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention

The total giving for the month was \$1,979,568.99, making the 1991 total at \$12,264,192.

This total in giving for the year is \$434,778 more than that given in the and worldwide missions causes.

places the current budget \$43,391 (or .35 percent) ahead of the pro rata amount needed to keep monthly pace with the budget.
The 1991 budget is \$20,949,962

The Cooperative Program is the unified voluntary budget system whereby the 2,000 participating churches give to support state, national,

Bailey Smith resigns church

By Greg Warner

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (ABP) -Saying "a broken engagement is better than a bad marriage," Bailey Smith resigned from North Jacksonville Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla., just three days before he was to

assume the pastorate.
Smith, an Atlanta-based evangelist and former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, will return to fulltime evangelism, his vocation since

"We are as shocked as anyone else," said Chris Coram, business administrator for the 5,000-member church, Jacksonville's second largest.

In a letter to the church, Smith cited four reasons for the change of heart: his health, his lack of "peace" about

the decision, a "rediscovered" call to evangelism, and the Bible's confirmation of the role of the evangelist.

Smith said he regrets any hurt or embarrassment caused the church. "I have not one negative thought about the church or those people," he said. "I loved those people. And I think that was my biggest problem," noting his concern for the church's members prevented him from seeing God's will

Smith, 52, accepted the Jacksonville pastorate June 16. He had preached at the church several times since and was already involved in church decision-making. He was in the pro-cess of closing down his evangelism

(See SMITH on page 7)

U.S. Secretary of Education approves TRACS as new accrediting agency

The Transnational Association of Christian Schools (TRACS) has recently been approved by the U.S. Secretary of Education, Lamar Alexander, as a nationally recognized accrediting agency for Christian postsecondary institutions. The recognition, which culminates twelve years of careful development and TRACS includes Christian liberal arts prayerful effort, is based on the colleges/universities, graduate secretary's determination that schools/seminaries, Bible col-TRACS is a reliable accrediting agency in assessing the educational quality of those institutions which it approves. The recognition process involves demonstrating compliance with the secretary's Criteria for Recognition (nine criteria with 46 subsections) and includes a USDE staff analysis of the agency's accreditation process, observations of on-site visits by evaluation teams, and observations of meetings of the decision-making body. Students attending institutions approved by TRACS become eligible for federal financial assistance

TRACS was founded in 1979 to serve as a national accrediting agency for Christian institutions which believe in biblical inerrancy, biblical authority the historicity of the first 11 chapters of Genesis, including special creation as opposed to evolution, and other doctrines of the gospel. The scope of leges/universities, graduate schools/seminaries, Bible colleges/institutes which offer a certificate, diploma, or degree (associate, baccalaureate, or graduate) at both an accredited level and a preaccredited (candidacy) level. In addition, TRACS has an associate status level for institutions, at various stages of development not yet ready for ac-credited or preaccredited status, wishing to identify with TRACS as being soundly biblical in faith and practice. TRACS also offers guidance and cooperation in the development of new institutions to become ready for full

The accreditation process established by TRACS includes institutional self-study and peer review by an evaluation team.

TRACS already has a significant number of accredited, preaccredited addition, interest has been expressed by over 100 institutions in 34 states. Inquiries may be directed to J. Gordon Henry, Executive Director, Transnational Association of Christian Schools, 2114 Arrow Court, Murfreesboro, TN 37130 (615) 890-8384.

TRACS has a dedicated group of **Board and Accreditation Commission** members, representing various educational institutions. The Board chairman is Henry Morris, President, ICR Graduate School (CA), the vice chairman is Woodrow Kroll, General Director, Back to the Bible (NE), and the secretary-treasurer is Earl Mills, Provost, Liberty University (VA).

JIMMY DRAPER SPENDS OVERNIGHT IN HOSPITAL: EULESS, Texas (BP) — Five days after being elected president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, James T. Draper Jr. spent a night in a hospital for observation following a bout with an irregular heartbeat. "I feel fine," Draper told Baptist Press. Draper said he experienced arterial fibrillation July 23 and was taken to the emergency room of a local hospital. The doctors on duty recommended he stay overnight for observation. The heart returned to a normal pattern within about six to seven hours. The EKG and all the blood work were normal, Draper said. Draper was elected president of the Baptist Sunday School Board July 18 in Nashville following a six month search by trustees. Draper, 55, is pastor of First, Euless.

Clarke College loses accreditation appeal

The Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools has confirmed that Clarke College lost its accreditation on April 5. James T. Rogers declared that Clarke College has lost its appeal and only a court restraining order could change it.

Students presently attending would be accredited but new students would not receive accredited work unless a

restraining order is in effect.

Temporary accreditation is still expected in mid-August which will be in effect until a full court hearing, which may take a year or more. A letter has been sent to prospective students con-cerning accreditation and several colleges have indicated that they would accept work performed at Clarke College until the court ruling is final.

Separation of church and state protects individual rights

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The nation's founders established church-state separation to protect individual religious freedom from majority rule, and the U.S. Supreme Court should not abandon that principle, according to a national religious liberty watchdog

In a friend-of-the-court brief filed July 17, Americans United for Separation of Church and State asked the justices to reject efforts by the Bush administration and others to change church-state doctrine and allow government involvement with

The "original intent" of Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and other founders, said Americans United, was to protect essential individual rights by removing them from the control of the democratic process.

"(A) Ithough the government of the United States under its new Constitution was to be governed by a representative government generally exercis-ing authority by majoritarian rule," insisted the AU document, "the Bill of Rights was an anti-majoritarian instrument designed to protect the individual from the tyranny of the majority and their elected executive and legislative representatives.

The AU brief was filed in a legal controversy dealing with the constitutionality of school-sponsored prayers at public school graduation ceremonies. The Lee v. Weisman case, which is set for argument this fall, deals with a complaint from a Rhode Island family that asks the federal courts to bar religious devotions at public school commencements.

The brief, drafted by Americans

United General Counsel Lee Boothby, urges the high court to reject attacks on current judicial doctrine that supports church-state separation. The Bush administration, the U.S. Catholic Conference, and other conservative religious groups have asked the justices to use the Lee case as an opportunity to reverse direction on church and state and allow greater promotion of religion by government.

Said Americans United Executive Director Robert L. Maddox, "The Bush administration and other antiseparationist groups are asking the court to replace individual religious freedom with community rule in matters of religion. This unwise course of action must be rejected if Americans are to retain a full measure of religious liberty."

Letters to the editor

"Militant feminism"?

We read with interest your recent article "National WMU president outlines women's role" (July 18, 1991) and wish to express some concerns.

The tone of Carolyn Miller's com-

ments seemed to be more appropriate to something published in NOW's publications, Cosmopolitan, or other such militantly feminist media,

rather than the Baptist Record.

Having served the Lord at First
Church, Jacksonville, Fla., Bellevue
Church, Memphis, and now Colonial Hills, Southaven, perhaps we have not been aware of the apparently bitter and confrontational spirit of the WMU hierarchy. Rather, we have seen a great many godly, fervent, and effec-tive Christian women who "do missions" in their homes, families, churches, and communities, both leading the lost to the Lord and lovingly discipling the saved, without brandishing the WMU banner. It seemed apparent that missions was not just something to "do," nor Tuesday morning meetings, nor arts and crafts for children, but learning how to share the truth of biblical Christianity, reaching out to the lost and needy with Christ-like compassion, and doing all in accordance with the apostolic examples, most especially in

- the book of Acts .

We are of the opinion that most Christian women are of sufficient maturity to decide for themselves what constitutes effective ministry and thereby participate accordingly. A male conspiracy is the least of the reasons why WMU is diminishing in many churches.

Rather than attacking AWANA, urging militancy, and advocating social revolution, perhaps the time is right to drop "the cause," choosing instead to deny self and follow the Lord. Though perhaps this would be too revolutionary in our "push, fight, and be strong" feminized America of the 1990s, it is our Christ-commanded call. Both Christian men and Christian women are called to minister. Yet, they are to do so under the authority of, and with the accountability to, not only the Lord, but the pastors and elders of the church. The comments made by Mrs. Miller which indicate an underlying rebellious and defiant spirit are more akin to militant feminism, than godly Christianity. This factor alone raises a flag about the "WMU issue" and, in effect, exposes the root of the "controversy."

> Brad and Pam Becker Southaven, MS

CLC asks Congress to support pro-life

By Tom Strode

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Christian Life Commission is making an effort to inform Southern Baptists as well as United States senators and representatives of its support of the pro-life, family-planning rules in danger of being overturned in Congress.

On July 18, a letter from Richard D. Land, executive director of the CLC, was mailed to all senators and representatives urging them to op-pose attempts to set aside pro-life regulations in the federal familyplanning program, known as Title 10.

A day later, the CLC took the unusual step of mailing a church bulletin insert encouraging Southern Baptists to contact Congress and the president to ask their support of the Title 10, pro-life rules. The bulletin insert was included in a special mailing of SALT, the CLC's new publication focusing on SBC interests in

Washington. The CLC is devoting such energy to the issue for two reasons, Land said:

"First, the principle involved — that they're asking pro-life people to support pro-abortion counseling through the use of their tax money, which is unconscionable," he said.

"Second, the upholding of the Title 10 regulations (by the Supreme Court) was a significant victory for the prolife movement. If Planned Parenthood and their pro-abortion fellow travelers are able to reverse this through a combination of a multimillion-dollar media campaign and the distortion of the issue as a 'free speech' issue, which it is not, then the pro-life coalition in Congress is seriously undermined, and it portends yet worse things in the very near future. It is

'Whatever happens in the next few days, a massive outpouring of Southern Baptist support may be the only hope that our unborn babies have," Land added.

Since 1988, the Title 10 rules have prohibited clinics from doing abortion counseling, promotion, and referrals as a part of their family-planning program. The regulations were not enforced in most states because of court battles. The Supreme Court, however, upheld the regulations in the May decision of the Rust v. Sullivan case.

Since the ruling, pro-choice members of Congress, as well as groups such as Planned Parenthood, have worked to convince the House of Representatives and Senate to overturn the regulations. On July 18, the Senate passed a bill by Sen. John Chafee, R.-R.I., removing the prohibition on abortion counseling. Earlier, the House included language in an appropriations measure negating the regulations by withholding money needed by the Department of Health and Human Services to enforce the

In his letter, Land warned the senators and representatives, "No member of Congress may vote to overturn or in anyway change the Ti-tle 10 regulations and be regarded by the CLC as having a pro-life position.

'No matter what the proponents of overturning the Title 10 regulations say, these votes are about abortion, and we will see to it that our consti-

tuency understands that this debate is about abortion," Land said.

A "large majority of Americans, including overwhelming percentages of Southern Baptists, have rejected the notion that abortion is a legitimate method of family planning," Land said in his letter.

The CLC's bulletin insert is headlined "Is abortion just another method of birth control?" The CLC is encouraging pastors to reproduce and distribute it to their congregations.

The SALT newsletter is devoted entirely to abortion funding, with a concentration on the Title 10 regulations.

The CLC's actions came during the same week a pro-life coalition announced it was beginning a nationwide advertising campaign in support of the regulations. The Abortion Is Not Family Planning Coalition expects to spend about \$1 million in com-municating its message that the Title 10 regulations prevent abortion from being treated as another form of birth control in federally funded clinics, a spokesman said.

In June, Planned Parenthood, which receives \$37 million annually through Title 10, announced it would spend \$3 to \$5 million on a national advertising effort. In Planned Parenthood's advertisements, the regulations are described as a "gag rule" on physicians and an attack on "free speech and medical ethics."

More than \$140 million is granted yearly to family-planning clinics through the Title 10 program.

Strode is director of media & news information, Washington office, CLC.

BWA reinstates Latvia after forty years!

MONTREAL, Canada (BP) - Baptist leaders from around the world said another yes to evangelism; voted for a human rights award; spoke to world events, religious freedom, and human rights; voted for aid and relief projects of more than \$2 million; accepted new members; and heard accounts of church growth when the general counsel of the Baptist World Alliance met July 7-14.

At their meeting in Montreal, Canada, the first BWA council meeting of the new quinquennium 1990-1995, members agreed to make evangelism their priority.

Action on behalf of those in need

and those who are victims of disaster was taken when over \$2 million of projects were approved as recommended by Baptist World Aid.

The largest monies for disaster relief were allocated for hunger relief with perhaps the greatest share for Bangladesh, whose three member bodies have requested more than \$1 million of aid. New to the hunger relief

BWA accepted three new members and reinstated two other members. New members are the Convenção Batista Nacional Brazil, the Czechoslovakia Baptist Convention of the USA and Canada, and the Hungarian Baptist Union of Romania. The council also approved full reinstatement for the Union of Baptist Churches of Latvia and Baptist Union of Estonia. Those new members add to the council more than 1,000 churches and about 350,000 members.

The Czechoslovakian Baptist Convention of the USA and Canada consists of seven congregations and 1,500 members

The third new member is the Hungarian Baptist Union of Romania with 9,000 members, 93 churches, and

Finally, the 4,500 member Union of Baptist Churches of Latvia was reinstated to full BWA membership after more than 40 years, as was the 6,000 member Baptist Union of Estonia.

Ryan writes for BWA.

CLC associate resigns

By Herb Hollinger

NASHVILLE (BP) - Robert Parham, associate director with the Christian Life Commission, has resigned.

Parham submitted his resignation, effective Sept. 1, to Richard Land, CLC executive director, July 26 indicating an announcement will be made next week concerning his future

However, according to sources in Nashville, Parham has been asked to become the executive director of the new Baptist Center for Ethics.

The center has been formed as an

apparent counter balance to the Christian Life Commission by a group of moderate Baptists dissatisfied with the direction of the SBC agency.

Asked by Baptist Press regarding the center executive post, Parham said, "It would be presumptuous and inappropriate for me to make a comment."

Parham has been with the CLC for six and a half years and was interim executive director of the SBC agency prior to Land's election.

Hollinger is director of Baptist

Scott County calls John Sharp as DOM

John Sharp, pastor of Sebastopol Church, has accepted the call as director of missions for Scott County

Association. He assumed duties on Aug. 1.

Born in Newton, Sharp is the son of Mrs. Mildred Sharp of Madden and the late John Sharp Sr. He is a graduate of East Central Junior Col-

lege, William Carey College, and

ed as pastor of four churches: Berwick Church, Liberty; Sabal Palm Church, Tallahassee, Fla.; Corinth Church, Singleton; and Sebastopol Church.

He is married to Jan Wilcher Sharp, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wilcher of Carthage. She is a graduate of William Carey and is employed with Sebastopol Attendance Center as kindergarten teacher. They have two sons, Jonathan, 14, and Justin, 11.

In associational work, he has served as moderator, president of the Pastors' Conference, ASSISTeam director, and chairman of the Crisis

Ministry and representative for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Jan has served on the ASSISTeam as preschool leader and WMU council as Mission Friends director.

The MBCB named Sharp "Small Church Pastor of the Year, 1988." During his 11-year tenure at Sebastopol, the Sunday School enrollment in-creased from 89 to 233; resident members grew from 122 to 207, Discipleship Training jumped from 52 to 166; WMU, from ten to 63; and yearly monetary receipts from \$28,670 to \$128,140. Sharp has led six MasterLife Discipleship Training series for 49



Sharp

New Orleans Seminary. He has serv-

Yugoslavia native born again in USA

At Ridgecrest on a Sunday night, Igor Banjac, exchange student from Yugoslavia, made public his decision to follow Jesus. A week later he was baptized at First Baptist Church, Quitman, Miss., two days before returning to his own country.

While in America completing his senior year in high school, 18-year-old Igor lived with the Quitman church's music minister, Wayne Baggett, and his family — wife Peggy, Emily, 13, and Jeremy, 9. That night of his baptism, he told the congregation, "I looked at the lives of my host family and I saw Christ in them and in their life-style. I saw Christ in the way that they treated their children and in their prayers at meal times and in the way that they cared about going to their

Last Aug. 29, the Baggetts eagerly waited at the Meridian airport, feeling somewhat as if they were waiting for arrival of a new baby. They had asked for a young man who liked music and literature, who could speak English well. They'd been told Igor "sounds like one you will like." They had looked up Yugoslavia in the en-cyclopedias and also checked to see how many Southern Baptist mis-sionaries were there. But their one small picture of Igor had not prepared them for this fellow, an only child, from Sarajevo. Last off the plane, he stood tall - way over six feet! In spite of being worn out from 22 hours of flycourtly ways. Since she teaches senior English, he would be in her class at

Later, when they asked Igor if he were a Christian, he said "Yes." But conversation revealed that to him being a Christian meant living a good life. Though he had an excellent upbringing otherwise, he had not been reared in church. The Baggetts invited him to go to church with them, but left the decision to him. He said he wanted to go; he made himself very much a part of the family, the church, the school, and the life of the town, Peggy said. He easily made friends with all age groups, senior adults and children alike, polite and helpful to all.

At school, he played tennis and basketball. Rating tops on the 4-H shooting team, he confessed it is mandatory for every man in Yugoslavia to learn to shoot. His musical instrument, he demonstrated for many, is the accordion. One problem occurred when, due to restrictions of sending much money out of their country, his parents found difficulty in getting his cpense money to him.

All year, Peggy said, "We prayed for Igor many times, We didn't think we could bear for him to leave, still not a Christian." Graduation time came,

and he got his diploma.

In early June, Jeremy made a proing by way of Amsterdam, Atlanta, fession of faith. Then while the whole

and Memphis, he immediately family was at Ridgecrest Conference charmed Peggy with his Old World Center in North Carolina, Igor made Center in North Carolina, Igor made his decision. As the invitation was given on Sunday night, June 9, he egan arguing with himself, he confided later. One part of him said, "You'd better go down. This will be your last chance," but another part of him answered, "All these people are watching. No, you can't go!" Finally he stepped into the aisle.

Sunday night, June 16, back in Mississippi, both Igor and Jeremy were baptized by the pastor, Rex Yancey, at First Church, Quitman. Tuesday, June 18, Igor left for Yugoslavia.

Though he had no idea what his parents' reaction to his decision would be, he had assured the Baggetts, "It was my dream and my decision to be an exchange student. This, too, is my own decision, and I will stick with it, no matter what anyone says." Back home, he met no opposition from his parents. He reported that his mother said she was proud of him and that she was sorry she had not taken him to church as he was growing up.
For this summer, the Baggetts had

made plans to visit Yugoslavia to meet the Banjacs. But due to fighting there, the trip was postponed. Now Igor has his visa and is ready to return to Mississippi this month to begin his studies at Meridian Community

The Baggetts will be waiting for him at the airport.



Igor Banjac, standing, exchange student from Yugoslavia, spent his senior high school year in Quitman with Wayne Baggett, seated center, minister of music at First Church, Quitman, and his wife Peggy, daughter Emily, and son Jeremy. On June 16, Banjac was baptized at First Church, Quitman. — Photo by Four Seasons Studio,

Clarke librarian processes books in Hungarian school

Joyce Zeigler, librarian at Clarke College, served in a short-term missions project in Budapest, Hungary, during June.

During four weeks in Budapest, Mrs. Zeigler processed several hundred books and placed them on the shelves of the library at the International Baptist Lay Academy. Also she trained some of the school's part-time

Jim Read, dean at Clarke College, has received a letter of appreciation from O. Errol Simmons, Southern Baptist missionary who is co-director of the IBLA.

Simmons stated, "She was not only

a willing worker, but was dedicated to the point of spending considerably more than eight hours each day at her volunteer work. Her contribution to the life of our school was significant."

"I pray that Mrs. Zeigler's ex-perience in Hungary," he continued, "will also help her to communicate something of our missionary ministry here to students of Clarke College. The Clarke College administration, faculty, staff, and student body should consider her service at IBLA to be a direct expression of the college's mis-sionary outreach. We at IBLA are

New Zion and Bogue Chitto are state softball champs

By Guy Henderson

Fellowship is where you find it and there are believers who say the best fellowship can come on the hot, sweaty ball field. The Mississippi Baptist State Softball Tourney was held at Legion Park in Jackson Friday and Saturday, July 26, 27.

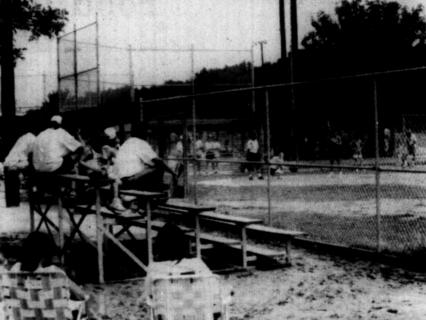
Thirty-five men's teams and 11 ladies' teams battled it out for the championship. Men of New Zion (Copiah) and Rienzi (Corinth) fought it out in the finals with New Zion win-ning. In the ladies' division, Bogue Chitto and Plainway were the con-

testants with Bogue Chitto winning. Al Jones of Bayou View, Gulfport, said it was "a time of good competi-tion and competition brings you closer

to the Lord and to your teammates." New Zion of Copiah County, on their ay to the championship, played Providence of Forrest County, and Leroy Brewer, pastor of New Zion, was one of the players. He declared, "You get to know people better - without a suit or tie — and they know it when you miss one."

Charles Cooper, pastor at Rienzi, had 35 members there, and said, "Involvement is the name of the game for us. We've seen some people saved as a result of involving people in sports."

Shirley Wallace of Bogue Chitto echoed all of this, saying the "fellowship is precious."



What manner of men were these?

The signers of the Declaration of Independence staked their honor, their money, and their lives on their signatures. Five signers were cap-tured as traitors by the British and were tortured before they died. Twelve others suffered the destruction of their homes. Two signers lost their sons who were taken prisoners. Nine of the 56 signers fought in the Revolutionary Army and died from wounds or from the hardships of war.

What manner of men were these? Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists; eleven were merchants; nine were farmers or owners of large plantations. All were men of means, and all had much to lose; yet still they signed the document that is our legacy of

Christian guitarist rocks the socks off the Kazakhs

By Connie Davis

ALMA-ATA, U.S.S.R. (BP) ing to concert halls packed with screaming Soviet teens made Dennis Mink remember a period in his musical career before he became a Christian.

IS

The lead guitarist for Sound Theology, a Christian rock band, Mink performed 12 concerts in two cities of the Soviet republic of Kazakhstan June 21-July 6 during the Kazakh-American Cultural Festival. Southern Baptists sponsored the festival through the Central Asian Foundation, a non-profit corporation pro-viding Christian aid in human and

economic development.
Soviets filled the 8,000-seat Sports Palace in Alma-Ata during the second night of concerts performed by Sound brother who was in prison. band, A Studio.

The adulation of the Soviet fans surprised Mink and the five other members of the Dallas-based band. But Mink is familiar with screaming

In the early 1980s Mink played guitar for the band Mirage. He associated with rock musicians like Jackson Browne and members of ZZ Top. After a stint with Mirage he played with another band that was offered a contract to tour with the Styx group and to record before it even had a name.

But just days before he was to sign the contract, Mink became a Christian because of the witness of a

be a part of that world any longer," said Mink during an interview at the Kazakh festival.

After 11 years in the music business, Mink put his guitar away along with the accompanying limelight and social life, which included alcohol and drugs. He's thankful he wasn't addicted and God took away the desire for his former lifestyle, he explained.

But Mink doesn't like to talk about the past. "No one's testimony is any greater than anybody else's," he noted. He's just happy to be a part of Sound Theology, which has been per-forming for about two years. A member of Casa View Baptist

Church in Dallas with several other

members of the band, Mink claimed at anybody I'd point it at myself," said "God reached out and put us here," he

The band received \$20,450 from Casa View Church in less than eight weeks to subsidize the trip and purchase 1,100 Russian Bibles. A Russian man Mink has known for 10 years translated cassette tape labels for a Soviet version of one of their recordings. The band's recording studio, Future Audio of Dallas, provided 140 tapes for distribution.

"We're here to let people, especially the youth, know that they're not alone; we're their friends. They'll get no condemnation from us.

"If anyone's going to point a finger

ed I couldn't do it. I couldn't a miracle brought them to the festival. Mink, who admitted to playing in "honky-tonk" bars at the age of 15.

> As the tour continued, members of Sound Theology and A Studio developed relationships and began performing tunes together.

"We've formed some lasting rela-tionships with them," reported Mink. "We have such a testimony to take

Sound Theology band members besides Mink are Paul Ridenour, Michael Judd, Mark Smith, David Seay, and Chris Chumley, all of the Dallas area. Clay Camp of Broken Arrow, Okla., assisted the group.

Davis writes for FMB.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

Baptist Record,

I often read the articles that appear in your newspaper and everyone in my household enjoys them as well. However, my favorite is the Pen Pal

My name is Sarah Alexander. I am a home schooler going into 7th grade. I would like for a Christian girl or boy to write me. Please send a picture if you have one. My address is: 8952 Anahola Place, Diamondhead, MS

Love in Christ, Sarah Alexander P.S. - I will write back.

I would like a pen pal. My name is Jeniffer Gutierrez. I was four years old June 5th. I attend Country Club House child care center. I would like a pen pal. I go with my neighbor to New Hope Baptist Church. I like swimming, puzzles, play with my dolls, and I like to ride horses.

Jeniffer Gutierrez 605 Herring Cir. Tupelo, MS 38801

My name is Ashley Jo Vines. I am 11 years old. Next year I will be in sixth grade at N.C.E.S. I attend Cold Water Baptist Church. A few of my hobbies are: swimming, singing, watching TV, reading, and going to

Love in Christ, Ashley Vines P. O. Box 484 Phila, MS 39350 P.S. I would like pictures, too.



My name is Cassie Smith. I am 12 years old. I attend Friendship Baptist Church. My hobbies are playing basketball, swimming, riding my bike, play the piano, and talking on the phone. I will be in the 7th grade at Loyd Star School. I would really like a boy or girl to write me.

Love in Christ, Cassie Smith Rt. 7, Box 347 Brookhaven, MS 39601 P.S. Please send me a picture.

My name is Denise. I go to Ferriday Junior High School. I am 13 and will be 14 in Oct. and will be in the 8th grade. I go to Riverside Baptist Church in Vidalia.

I spent the summer in Mississippi with my cousin. My hobbies include:

playing softball, reading, watching T.V., and listening to music.

I would like to hear from boys and girls, and if possible could you please send a picture.

My address is: Denise Cessna 140 Crestview Dr. Ferriday, LA 71334

My name is Kelly. And I am 8½. in September I will be 9. I would love to have a pen pal. I just love to read and write. My hobbies are playing ball. I would like to have a girl or boy write to me.

Kelly

P.S. My address is: Kelly Cooper, 178 Blasingame Dr., Columbus, MS

Mission Friends of Westside Church, Calhoun, go on a monthly visitation to the sick and elderly in their community, carrying a fruit basket and prayers with them. Pictured, left to right, are Jody Stegall, T. J. Vanlandingham, Annette Ruth, leader, Diane Franklin, and Brittney Vanlandingham.

Hi, my name is Denise Shaunee Bradberry. I go to Parkway Baptist Church in Houston, MS. My pastor is Bro. David Kendall and he is very nice. I am 11 years old I will be 12 April 6, 1992. I go to Houston Middle School and when school starts again I will be in the 6th grade. Oh, and yes I would love to have a boy or girl pen

Love, Denise Bradberry Rt. 1, Box 429 Houston, MS 38851

My name is Laura Williams. I am ten years old. I would like to have a pen pal, boy or girl and my hobbies are swimming, skating, and horseback riding. I will be home taught this year. I live in Kosciusko, MS. My address is Rt. 2, Box 400-D, Kosciusko, MS 30000 Kosciusko, MS 39090.

Laura Williams

My name is Prissy Coghlan and I live in McComb, MS. I attend church at South McComb Baptist Church. I am 9 years old, and will be in the 4th

I like to swim, cross stitch, draw, paint, horseback riding, and reading.
I stay with my grandparents in Magnolia for the summer. I would like

very much for you boys and girls to write to me.

Love in Christ, Prissy Coglan My address is: Rt. 3, Box 62, Magnolia, MS 39652



Khun Sumrung (wife of one of the janitors at Calvary Baptist Church), Bangkok, cooks food for the Thailand Baptist missionaries who eat at her sidewalk restaurant. In the background are missionaries Shirley Mackin, Shelly Manning, Douglas Ringer, language and orientation director for new missionaries, and Richard Blount eating with several other missionaries not visible in photo. (Photo by Maxine Stewart)



A young mango and sticky rice with coconut milk sauce vendor in Bangkok. It is not unusual for children to assist their parents in this type of work. (Photo by Maxine

Food in Bangkok

By Maxine Stewart

Dried squid in the hot Thai sunlight of Bangkok hang in neat rows, clothespinned on a vendor's cart, like pairs of socks on a clothes rack. They have been put through a roller and flattened out paper thin.

Many food stalls, carts, baskets,

bicycles, and charcoal pots take up most of the sidewalk space. Food vendors crowd together on corners and park along the edge of the roadside.

Portable restaurants are common on the streets of Bangkok. Carts loaded with tables and stools are wheeled along the streets

Vendors fan charcoal fires to cook kebobs. Cooking food fills the air with the smell of burning charcoal.

In early morning, women make waffles along the sidewalk. The buyer does not sit down and eat the waffle, but eats it after arriving at work, or at a sidewalk foodshop after ordering other food.

Displays of Thai fruit can be seen along the sidewalks. Heavy carts carry big glass jars of fruit juice. The refreshing drink is sold over crushed straw and fastened with a rubber band. NAM SOM (orangeade) and NAM MANAO (limeade), are usually the favorites.

At noon, on any working day, office workers spill out onto the hot, bright, crowded streets of Bangkok. Most of them are young women, looking fresh and crisp as they leave their air-conditioned buildings. Some of them eat in restaurants. Others go to coffee shops. Yet others go from stall-to-stall bargaining and buying their lunches in plastic bags, or banana leaves, to be taken back to their offices. Others buy from a food cart and sit on a metal stool at a little folding table en-

joying the "fresh air," their meal, and delightful conversation with friends. Among the lunch-time crowds are

many missionaries of the Thailand Baptist Mission who buy and eat their food at the sidewalk shop. If the tables are filled at their regular eating places, some of them take their food into the compound of nearby Calvary Baptist Church and sit at a folding table with metal folding chairs out on the walkway in front of the church.

There is no one word to describe the taste of Thai food. It is spicy, strongscented (they use a lot of garlic and shrimp paste), tangy, pungent, hot, and sour. Most of it is attractive and

pleasing to the taste.

Many foreigners, including missionaries, like sticky rice with coconut

sionaries, like sticky rice with coconut milk sauce and mangoes.

The food is usually piping hot and eating utensils are often plunged into the hot food for a quick "sanitizing" process, hoping to kill any germs the bucket of dishwater failed to get.

Some people describe Thai food as hot, hotter, and hottest. Thais cook with a let of chilics. The most or

with a lot of chilies. The most explosive is the smallest, a little bombshell known as PRIKKI NU.

Eating one of these half-inch pods of dynamite can be, for most people, an unforgettable experience. There are those, including some missionaries, who feel these chilies are about as useful in the food as ground

Thai food usually has a variety of sauces. NAM PLA PRIK (fermented fish sauce with PRIKII NU chilies) is called the "national dish of Thailand." Even some of the missionaries feel they cannot eat without it.

Mrs. Stewart and her husband are missionaries in Thailand.



Two early morning vendors sell from basket and shoulder poles as they await their customers on the streets of Bangkok, Thailand. (Photo by Maxine Stewart)



What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light: and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

August 8, 1991

HOUSETOPS is a supplement to the Baptist Record and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



WITNESSING TO CHILDREN

by Elaine Smith, Secretary, Ministry Office, MBCB

"Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God." Mark 10:14b

Children are very special. Jesus did not push them aside and tell them to wait until they were adults. Jesus said the children were to be brought to Him. Do you bring your children to Jesus?

Children learn by watching and by doing. An example means as much as words. Your children will not inherit your faith. They will learn about God from your life, your teachings, and regular attendance in Sunday School. Take your child with you to Sunday School every Sunday. This is a must. The Bible teachings in Sunday School build on one another week after week, year after year to teach children the plan of God.

Even though we begin telling our children about God through songs and Bible stories from infancy, it is not until the age span of nine to twelve years that many children come to realize that they cannot live in the way that pleases God without His help.

Lead your children to know:

- God is love A child responds to love. He learns how to receive and give love from his parents. God loves us so much He gave us Jesus - John 3:16. God wants us to love others - 1 John 4:7-8, 11; Proverbs 17:17.
- God provides He gives us a family, and a home, clothes to wear, and food to eat. Children love to read about Jesus feeding the multitudes John 6:1-13. God gave Jesus a family to take care of him. You can talk about this during family times at home, around the dinner table.
- 3. God wants us to obey Jesus obeyed his parents. Read the Bible story in Luke 2:41-52. Children are to obey their parents - Exodus 20:12; Colossians 3:20.
- 4. God wants us to worship Teach your child about God's greatness and goodness. Show him creation from the stars in the sky to the wildflower growing by the path in the woods. Worship is a response to God's goodness - singing, playing music, reading our Bible, talking to God in prayer. The Psalms are filled with songs and prayers of praise, thanksgiving, and petition. Read Psalms 23, Psalms 100, Psalms 150.

Remember, you cannot choose for your child. Pray and trust God to do His work. When your child is ready, the Holy Spirit will bring him to make his decision for Christ.

This series of articles deals with how to become a Christian or how to share your faith. Articles by others will follow in future issues of HouseTops.

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Prayer Line 969-7729

Call the Prayer Line to:

- 1) Leave a prayer request
- 2) Share a praise prayer
- 3) To receive a prayer concern



LAST CALL!

CHURCH WMU
LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Five one-day sessions at Camp Garaywa (choose one):

August 13-17 — 9:30am - 2:30pm (cost: \$4.50 for lunch)

Two night sessions at Camp Garaywa (choose one):

August 12 and 13 — 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Day and night sessions at other locations (choose one):

August 19 - Hattiesburg, FBC and Tupelo, FBC 6:30pm - 9:00pm

August 20 - Hattiesburg, FBC and Tupelo, FBC 9:30am - 2:30pm (Please bring a sack lunch)

SPECIAL CONFERENCES:

- * CONTACT Awareness Conference Tuesday, August 13 Camp Garaywa
- * Literacy Workshop Thursday and Friday, August 15-16 Camp Garaywa

CONFERENCES FOR EVERYONE!

Mission Friends Leaders, GA Leaders, Acteens Leaders, BYW Officers, Baptist Women Officers, WMU Officers

State Missions Emphasis September 8-11 Goal: \$645,000

Volunteers from Pearson Baptist Church, Pearl, assisted the WMU department in mailing out State Missions materials to church WMU directors and Directors of Associational Missions recently.

Included in the mailout packages were a video tape, "Mississippi Baptists . . . Responding;" an information sheet giving details of how the Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering will be used; a listening sheet to be used with the video; a poster; and a sample offering envelope. An order form was included as a part of the letter to WMU Directors and Directors of Missions allowing them to order additional posters and envelopes.

A separate mailout was sent to pastors of churches which do not have WMU organizations. Included in the mailout was a poster, information sheet, and a sample offering envelope. Pastors were encouraged to request a copy of the video, free of charge.

Churches which did not receive a video may obtain a copy by calling the WMU office, 968-3800.

ALLOCATIONS:

- 1. NEW MISSIONS \$165,000 State Mission Offering is used to help in starting new work in the state. In 1990 our state was in the top ten state conventions in the Southern Baptist Convention with the number of church starts. Thirteen new churches were begun. The offering is used to assist with purchasing sites on which churches will be located. Site grants were made to Robinwood Baptist Mission and Grace Temple Baptist Mission, both in Gulf Coast Association; West Batesville Baptist Mission, Panola Association; and Rankin Association. Total expenditure of \$132,050 for property was made in 1990. The offering also is used to purchase mobile chapels which are then insured, moved and set up on church or mission sites. Sixteen such units are currently being used by new congregations in our state.
- 2. CENTRAL HILLS \$168,000 Normal operating expenses will be cared for— such as salaries, equipment and utilities. Additionally, the Margaret Lackey Offering will provide resources for upgrading equipment (after twelve years of use) such as the sewage grinder system. Also, there are plans to refurbish areas of the camp center and lodge with touch-up painting.
- 3. CAMP GARAYWA \$158,000 Will help with repairs and improvements on thirty-two camp buildings and upkeep and additional landscaping of campgrounds. Other items which will benefit are salaries of three full-time staff people, camp office operation expenses, maintenance of equipment, and purchasing of maintenance and housekeeping supplies.
- 4. DISASTER RELIEF \$35,000 During the past year we were able to secure a newer, more powerful tractor to pull the Disaster Relief Unit. The interior of the feeding unit was also upgraded. The unit was taken to Elba, Alabama, because of flooding there; 11,902 meals were served. Mississippi disasters tornado at Vaiden, flooding at Gulfport and Marks where the Disaster Relief team served a total of almost 18,000 meals. As part of a pre-convention activity of the Southern Baptist Convention, our unit and team went to Atlanta to serve in a massive two-day effort to feed the poor and homeless in that city.
- **5. NATIONAL BAPTISTS \$3,500** Used to assist with leadership training for National Baptist Women in missions work. Also to provide the chaplain at Piney Woods School with Bibles to use in religious services.



- 6. CHOCTAW INDIANS \$3,500 Each Indian child who attends Garaywa or Central Hills is provided 1/2 the camp fee from State Mission Offering; additionally, the offering helps make possible a piano program among the Choctaws. Piano lessons are taught to students who will then serve in the music ministry of our Choctaw churches. The students share in the cost of their lessons. Presently the e are eight students involved in the program. Five of the twelve churches in New Choctaw Association have church pianists who were taught in this program. Also, two of the young women who have had piano lessons are now teaching children themselves.
- 7. CHURCH BUILDING AID/PASTORAL AID \$40,000 In 1991 ten churches have received building aid and nine pastors are receiving pastoral aid each month.
- 8. STUDENT WORK/BLACK CAMPUSES \$20,000 Presently there is Baptist student work on seven historically black campuses; the future goal is for fifteen campuses to be involved. Also beginning to employ parttime or assistant black BSU directors only one right now is at Northeast Community College. Student Work leaders in the state are hoping to have more of the traditionally white colleges and universities where there is growth potential among black students to have black leaders.
- 9. CHURCH PLANTER \$10,000 Dottie Williamson is our Church Planter in Pearl River Association; her term of service in that association will expire in June,
- 1992. At that time she will move to Hinds-Madison Association to help begin churches and to work with multi-family housing ministries in and around our capital city. In Pearl River Association, the Rolling Hills Baptist Church has come into being. They have grown to an enrollment of 85 in Sunday School. Their plans for the fall are to build a permanent church building. They are presently meeting in a Mississippi Baptist Convention-owned mobile chapel which was provided through Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering.
- 10. PARCHMAN MINISTRY \$20,000 Missionaries Charles and Hazel Jones are working with employees of the state penitentiary and their families. Margaret Lackey Offering makes possible children's programs, such as Big A Club, Vacation Bible School and special programs at holiday times, such as Christmas and Easter. Youth have weekly Bible studies and special activities, such as musicals, video presentations dealing with teen issues, and other special events. There are seminars presented for adults. Additionally, the offering assists with salaries for three staff people, plus building maintenance and insurance, and utilities, grounds and lawn care, bus and van insurance, upkeep and operational expenses, office supplies and materials, and refreshments for children and youth and special events.
- 11. PRISON MINISTRY \$10,000 This is a new State Missions Offering allocation. These funds will make possible the development of strategies and materials for church members to

be trained and encouraged to evangelize and minister among those who are incarcerated in a local correctional facility.

12. MISSIONS AWARENESS -\$12,000 - This is the name given to the preparation, printing and mailing of materials. The updated video, MISSISSIPPI BAPTISTS —RESPONDING, which is being made available to every

church in the Mississippi Baptist Convention, was made possible because of this allocation. Posters, offering envelopes and other materials also are provided through this allocation.

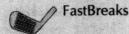


Pictured are volunteers from Pearson Church, Pearl, who stuffed enveloped for the state mission offering promotional packets: From left, they are Connie Seaney, Hazel Different, Juanita Gallaspy, Meriam Brown, Clara Payne, and Nina Rayborn.



In September the place to be is at Gulfshore for Sunday School Training.

September 6-7 guest speaker Katie Grogan, consultant Maryland Convention Board September 13-14 guest speaker Dr. Charles Lowry, professor New Orleans Seminary





 Special features on improvements in Curriculum, BREAKTHROUGH, and Convocation on the Bible



Helps for churches using Life and Work, Bible Book and/or Convention Uniform Curriculum



Helps for new and experienced leadership and church staff



September 13-14 only Special Education leadership training led by Dennis Dawson, Durant, OK

* I August 1-3

* II August 8-10 III September 6-7 IV September 13-14 *Childcare only during Sessions I and II.

For housing information contact Frank Simmons, 100 First Street, Pass Christian, MS 39571. Phone: 601/452-7261.

For program information contact the Sunday School Department. Phone: 601/968-3800.

September Gulfshore Conference for Single Adult Sunday School Leadership



A conference for single adult Sunday School leaders will be conducted **September 6-7 and September 13-14** at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly at Pass Christian. During the conference, Single Adult Sunday School leaders will examine new organization for single adult classes, discover ways to reach single adults, define their responsibilities in their single adult Sunday School leadership role, identify ways to be more effective ministers to single adults, and experience how to creatively teach single adults in Sunday School.

Leading this conference will be Steve and Carla Street. Steve is Minister with Single Adults at Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson. Carla serves as Associate Director with Single Adults at Broadmoor Baptist Church.

Attend a CONTACT Awareness Conference

August 13, 1991

Camp Garaywa

9:30am - 2:30pm

Cost: \$4.50 (lunch)



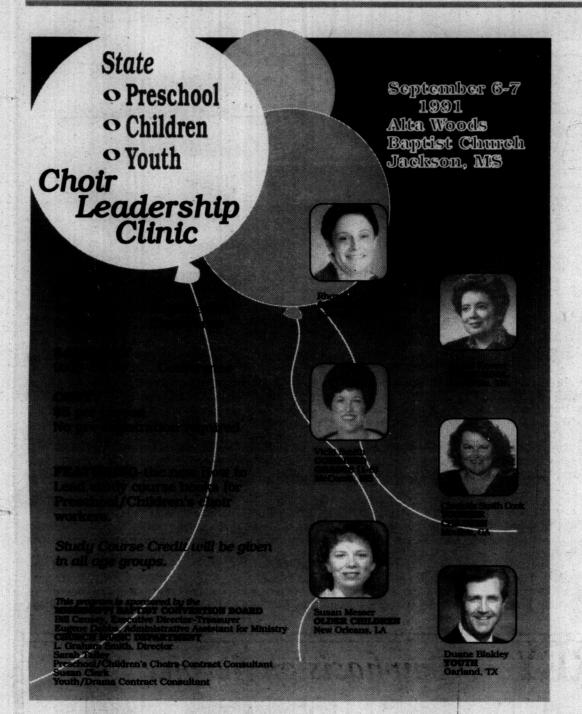
Can you stop
long enough to know the
Father?
You can with
CONTACT.

contact is a new spiritual growth experience that will lead you into a closer walk with the Father and help you gain a deeper understanding of His Word and your world.

The program is designed for 12 weeks and includes individual and group study.



For details call Ashley McCaleb at the WMU office: 968-3800





YOU'RE IN LUCK! Conference for **Special Education Workers**

Conferences led by Dennis Dawson, First Baptist Church, Durant, Oklahoma, Special Education Ministries.

September 13-14 1991

September Sunday School Gulfshore Conference

- Conferences for Parents and Workers
- Learning in Small Groups
- Fun Time
- Music
- Fellowship

No childcare provided.

For more information:

For Housing contact: Frank Simmons, Manager **Gulfshore Baptist Assembly** 100 First Street Pass Christian, MS 39571

Telephone (601) 452-7261

For Program contact:

Sunday School Department Mississippi Baptist Convention Board P.O. Box 530 Jackson, MS 39205 Telephone (601) 968-3800

"Train up a child in the way he should go..."

(Prov. 22:6).

Beginning next month, preschool teachers will have new curriculum materials specifically for Discipleship

- Preschoolers at Church Teacher's Guide
- Preschoolers at Church and Home (leaflets)
- Preschoolers at Church-Kit for Teachers

Preschoolers at Church curriculum equips teachers to teach the Bible by using Bible stories and conversation, Bible verses thoughts, songs, and pictures. This new curriculum incorporates activity-based teaching to help the child learn spiritual truths while he is interacting with materials, other preschoolers, and teachers.

Teachers will find Preschoolers at Church curriculum attractive, easy to use, and uncomplicated. The Teacher's Guide includes:

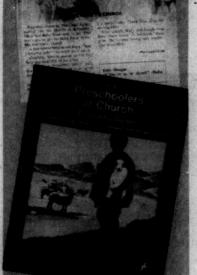
- · Bible background information and guidance in using the Bible with preschoolers
- Step-by-step plans for teaching during the session
- · An easy-to-implement schedule which includes a variety of activities for preschoolers
- · Wide right-hand margins for notes and reminders

Preschoolers at Church and Home is a colorful leaflet given to the parents each week as they pick up their child. Each four-page leaflet includes a Bible story, related full color picture, and suggested activities for parents to use with their preschoolers.

Preschoolers at Church—Kit for Teachers will supplement the teaching sessions with attractive, ready-to-use items such as games, pictures, puzzles, and more.

Preschoolers at Church materials can be ordered for your church's preschool leaders simply by calling toll free 1-800-458-BSSB.

If your church is just beginning a Discipleship Training program, you may be eligible for free literature up to an amount of \$100.00. For details, call 1-615-251-2834. And be sure to include Preschoolers at Church materials with your request.





Key leader seminar topic: "Managing Human Resources"

Help for church administrators is of the Baptist Sunday School Board. on the way. A conference is set Sept. 10 on the topic "Managing Human

Resources in the Church.'



The conference, part of the series of key leader seminars, will take place at the Baptist Building in Jackson beginning at 9 a.m. and concluding at 3:30 that afternoon.

The meeting is designed for pastors, staffers with

supervisory roles, and personnel committee members.

Program leader will be Tim Holcomb, a consultant with the Church Administration Department

Holcomb is compiler of The Church Personnel Administration Guide. which is the text for the conference. The guide "proposes effective appraisal methods that give staff members and personnel committees good evaluation tools," according to printed materials. Julius Thompson, director of the MBCB's Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department will host the meeting.

The conference will cover organizational guidelines, technical processes, and relational skills.

The registration fee is \$10 per person. To make a reservation, write Thompson at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205, or phone 968-3800. Reservations are necessary in order to plan for materials and the meal.

House approves fetal tissue research

WASHINGTON (BP) — The House of Representatives has approved legislation directing the federal government to fund the use of tissue from aborted babies in experimental transplantation.

On July 25, the House voted 274-144 for a bill lifting a ban on fetal tissue research. The legislation, H.R. 2507, provides for the reauthorization of the National Institutes of Health policy.

Supporters of the moratorium fear lifting the ban will result in an increase in induced abortions because it could provide women considering such action with apparent justifica-tion. Opponents of the policy say fetal unethical research."

tissue research should be funded because some scientists report it could provide a remedy for such afflictions as Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease.

"This vote represents another example of how our consciences are being violated by use of our tax dollars," said James A. Smith, director of government relations for the Christian Life Commission. "In this case, the barbarians are at the gate asking the federal government to give the 'Good Housekeeping' seal of approval while taxpayers are being coerced to

ETHICS

From page 3

fessor of Christian ethics, Baylor University, Waco, Texas; Ira Peak, assistant professor of ethics and policy studies at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Craig Sherouse, pastor, Lakeside Church, Lakeland, Fla.; Ron Sisk, pastor, Tiburon Church, Tiburon, Calif.; Paul Simmons, professor of Christian ethics, Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Ebbie Smith, professor of Christian ethics and missions, Southwestern Seminary; Glen Stassen, professor of Christian ethics, Southern Seminary; and Bill Tillman, associate professor of Christian ethics, Southwestern Seminary.

1st, Yazoo City marks pastor's 30th anniversary

First Church, Yazoo City, will celebrate the 30th anniversary of its pastor, James F. Yates, with

"Homecoming '91" on Sunday, Aug. 18. The 11 a.m. service will include special music by the choir and musical guests; recognition of the "Churchmen of the Year"; and special other features.

Dinner will be served "on the ground." The 7 p.m. service will feature a duo piano concert by Carol Joy (Yates) Sparkman

Advisory council members announced are: W.C. Fields, chairman, Woodmont Church, Nashville; Jack Causey, First Church, Statesville, N.C.; Elizabeth Cooper, First Church, Yazoo City, Miss.; Bruce Heilman, University of Richmond (Va.); Randall Lolley, First Church, Greensboro, N.C.; June McEwen, First Church, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Bill White, Second Church, Little Rock, Ark.; and Kay Shurden, Macon, Ga.

The BCE's mailing address is P.O. Box 22188, Nashville, TN 37202.

Hollinger is director of Baptist

SMITH

From page 3

association's office in Atlanta and was to start his work at the church official-

Smith denied that a dispute over the minister of music, who was terminated at Smith's request, influenced his decision. "That had nothing to do with it at all," he said. "The pulpit committee had made it clear to me they expected me get my own staff."

Smith offered the music position to an Oklahoman, who already had quit his job when the evangelist made his surprise announcement. The outgoing minister of music has since taken another position.

Other factors had clouded the evangelist's arrival in Jacksonville. The North Jacksonville Church is laboring under a heavy debt, which has forced spending restrictions at the church. And the largest-ever church bond default, at Smith's former pastorate in Del City, Okla., had attracted publicity both in the national press and a Jacksonville newspaper.

Warner is editor Associated Baptist

Thursday, August 8, 1991 Causey will speak at MC commencement

William W. (Bill) Causey of Clinton, executive director, Mississippi Baptist



Causey

There are 202 candidates for degrees, including 101 undergraduates, 93 grad-

ment speaker at

Mississippi Col-

lege's summer

graduation sched-

uled Aug. 9, at 2 p.m. in the A. E.

Wood Coliseum on

campus.

and eight doctor of jurisprudence degrees from the School of Law. The degrees will be conferred by Lewis Nobles, president of the college.

In addition, Mrs. Hyung Ja Lee, a native of Seoul, Korea, will be the recipient of the honorary degree of Doctor of Missiology. This degree will be conferred in recognition of her contributions to world missions and to the propagation of the Gospel of Christ.

Causey, a native of Greenville, is a graduate of Mississippi College. At Southern Seminary he earned the master of divinity degree. He was awarded the honorary doctor of divinity degree by Mississippi College

LETTERS FROM CAREY - Emphasis on Service

Jim Edwards, President

August 8, 1991

are (God's) we workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in him.

Ephesians 2:10

Workmanship and good works are part of how we serve God and walk in Him. Three areas of service currently emphasized by the new leadership at William Carey College are: community denominational service, service, and work service. The emphasis on service is implemented primarily through a new Student Foundation Program, the Church-Related Vocations Program, and the professional degree programs of the College.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

C. Leonard Raybon, a music major from Pascagoula, has been part of the new service program at Carey, and he writes: "As demonstrated in the life of the greatest role model, Christ, service is a virtue that should be present in the lives of all people.

I am pleased that the administration of William Carey

College is making a significant effort in introducing service as an integral of part student life. As students at



a Baptist institution we have a responsibility to set an example for the community. The new service program is definitely a worthy avenue through which the city of Hattlesburg and surrounding areas can see a new William Carey College more devoted to excellence than ever before.

This service program has paid me, both monetarily, as well as emotionally. As a Carey college student, I have been involved with several projects including programs in nursing homes and other areas of human need. These various programs can only produce positive results in campus life, community relations, and the integrity of the college."

DENOMINATIONAL SERVICE

In the past two years we have worked actively to strengthen our denominational relations and to affirm the heritage of our namesake, William Carey. One of the keys that reflects our progress in this area is the quality and number of our Church-Related Vocation students. They are the students who have made Carey their college of choice, have felt called to serve God as ministers, music and youth directors, education directors, and missionaries. The following figures represent some of our progress, especially since Hardy Denham joined us a year ago.

> CRV Students 1989 43 48 1991 1991 64 (pre-registered and returning)

As you can see, the number of students already preregistered and returning for the upcoming trimester greatly exceeds the low point in our history two years ago. New academic leadership during the upcoming year in the Cooper School of Missions and Biblical Studies and the Winters School of Music will add impetus to our progress.

WORK SERVICE

Many of you reading this article were brought up with admonitions such as "idle hands are the Devil's workshop" and "whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." My father always said "do it right." The message is the same, i.e. any work worth doing is worth doing well.

William Carey has many, many fine graduates who embody the essence of this philosophy. Doctors, educators, artists, bankers, musicians and many other professionals have demonstrated a commitment to the work ethic in their lives. As much as any single group, our nursing graduates reflect this emphasis on service through work. The history of that program has been one of ups and downs for many years. The progress in the past two years is shown below in the number of our nursing graduates from New Orleans and the Mississippi totals on our Gulfport and Hattiesburg campus.

	N.O.	Miss.	Total
1989	18	0	18
1990	33	7	40
1991 (May)	33	23	56
1991 (Aug.)	17	21	38

The total nursing graduates doubled from 1989 to 1990 and more than doubled again by 1991. In our August graduation next week, we will have more Mississippi graduates than Louisiana. The August total from Gulfport (17) will equal the New Orleans total. Over 95% of our nursing graduates are women and many are ethnic minorities. Most are working mothers who balance service to family, profession, and God extraordinarily well!

William Carey is moving Mississippi's largest programs in an area of critical neednursing service. We have worked successfully to focus on service to Mississippi and health care needs of our State. We already have 200 nursing and pre-nursing students pre-registered for Fall classes in Mississippi. We believe those students will join the ranks of our other fine alumni who serve Him, the Servant of us all.

(P.S. Next Week - the year ahead)

Churches adopt Expanded Annuity Plan

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity Plan since those reported in the June 6 issue of the Baptist Record: Covington: Union South; Lowndes: Kolola; Pontotoc: Thaxton; and Rankin:

Revival dates

Bala Chitto (Pike) Aug. 11-14; Gary Sloan, Unity Church, evangelist; Mike Thompson, Bala Chitto, music; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. with lunch at church; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; G. W. Smith, pastor.

New Hope Church, Monticello (Lawrence): Aug. 11-14; Will McRaney, Pascagoula, evangelist; Tommy Vandiver, New Orleans, music leader; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; during week at 7 p.m.; Robert M. Paul, Jr., pastor.

Duffee Church: Aug. 11-16; Sam Maddox, Philadelphia, evangelist; C. C. Burns, Enterprise, leading the singing; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 7 p.m.; John D. West,

Pilgrim's Rest, Ethel (Attala): Aug. 11-14; Sunday, Gideon Appreciation Day, worship, 11 a.m., Walter Hines, pastor, speaker, lunch in fellowship hall to follow, and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Ralph Hunt, Sand Hill Church, Kosciusko, evangelist; Pete Collins and Alton Milner, music; Linda Collins, pianist.

Providence, Meadville (Franklin): Aug. 11-16; Sun., 11 a.m. service, covered dish luncheon followed by service at 1 p.m. (no evening service on Sunday); Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Troy Bankston, McComb, evangelist; Connie Arnold, music; Lowell Ingram, pastor.

Little Bahala Church, Wesson (Lincoln): Aug. 11-16; Sunday services, 11 a.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; John D. Smith, Brookhaven, missionary to Indonesia in 1963, evangelist; Nancy (Beeson) James, Brookhaven, music; Frank Leggett, pastor.

Montgomery, Summit: Aug. 11-16; Floyd Higginbotham, evangelist; Tom Moak, music; Sunday, 11 a.m., followed by dinner on the grounds, and 6:15 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Starrett Cleveland, pastor.

Concord Church, Ackerman: Aug. 11-16; Allen Simpson, Fellowship Church, Bellefontaine, evangelist; Lamar Blaine, Concord Church, Ackerman, music; services, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Ralph Cain, pastor.

Hebron Church, Yazoo County: Aug. 11-16; Sun., regular services, noon dinner in fellowship hall; 7 p.m. nightly; Paul Stupka, associate pastor and youth minister, Emmanuel Church, Greenville, evangelist; Rusty Keen, Vicksburg, music: Bill Hutto, pastor.

First Church, Pontotoc: Aug. 11-15, Mon.-Thurs., noon and 7 p.m.; meal served at noon; Roger Freeman, pastor, First Church in New Orleans, vangelist; music directed by Lew King, minister of music at Parkway Church, Jackson; Ed Deuschle, pastor

Fredonia Chu h, New Albany: Aug. 11-15; services 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Mon.-"hurs.; service will be held from 12 o 12:30 p.m. Mon. Thurs. in fellowship nall with a sandwich/salad luncheon provided; Bobl Williamson, Park Place Church, Brandon, evangelist; David McClure, minister of music at Fredonia, music; H. Gregg Thomas,

Longview (Oktibbeha): area revival; Aug. 11-16, area pastors and music directors in charge. Preachers: Aug. 11, at 11 a.m., J. C. Mitchell, director of missions, Golden Triangle, and at 6 p.m., Bob Brandon, interim pastor, New Hope. Aug. 12, Buster Wilson, pastor, Friendship; Aug. 13, Steve Lammons, pastor, Sturgis; Aug. 14, Larry Haggard, pastor, Pleasant Ridge; Aug. 15, James Young, pastor, Wake Forest; Aug. 16, Barry Wilkinson, pastor, Morgan Chapel. James Hutcherson is pastor at Longview and Jim Simpson is minister of music. Week night services, at 7.

Airport Church, Grenada: Aug. 11-16; Gene Foshee, Greenwood, evangelist; Hollis Ishee, Grenada, music; 7 p.m. nightly.

First Church, Lauderdale: Aug. 11-14; John Merck, Lucedale, evangelist; Ron Mercer, Meridian, music; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Mike Russell,

Coat Church, Magee: Aug. 11-14; Ken Harrison, Eastside Church, Magee, evangelist; Wayne Thompson, Eastside Church, Magee, music; 7:30 nightly; Mike Thompson, pastor.

Sand Hill, Ellisville: Aug. 11-16; services, 7 p.m.; David E. Walley, Richton, pastor of Hillcrest Church, Lucedale, evangelist; Jimmy D. Walley, pastor of Sand Hill Church, music evangelist.

Hebron (Montgomery): Aug. 11-16; Sunday, homecoming, lunch in the old sanctuary with singing and special music in afternoon; revival services, 7:30 p.m. each evening; Louis Smith, director of Church-Minister Relations and Annuity, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Jackson, evangelist; Harvey and Tommie Overstreet, music; Billy Little, pastor.

Salem Raymond: Aug. 11-14; Sun- reach goals day, homecoming; 7 p.m. each evening; Ronny Robinson, executive director, Baptist Children's Village, Jackson, evangelist.

Oak Grove (Scott): Aug. 11-14; regular morning worship, 11 a.m.; revival services, 7 p.m., Sun., 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Wed.; Timmy Fanguy, pastor, Sand Ridge Church, Lake, evangelist; Ted and Nelda Jones, music; Victor R. Vaughn Sr., pastor.

Flora (Hinds-Madison): Aug. 11-15; Ted Traylor, Olive Church, Pensacola, Fla., evangelist; Tommy and Carol Joy Sparkman, Parkway Church, Jackson, music; Sun., 7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Charles D. Hampton, pastor.

Holly Springs (Marion): Aug. 11-16; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; services, 11 a.m.; dinner in fellowship hall; 1:30 p.m. service; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Archie Herrin, director of missions. Marion Association, evangelist; Otis Broome and Mack Davis, music; Charles E. Williams, pastor.

Old Silver Creek (Lawrence): Aug. 11-14; Sunday, homecoming, 11 a.m.; lunch at church; Sunday night, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Eddie Myers, evangelist, Ernest Rials, music, Max Jones, pastor.

Staff changes

Osyka Church, Pike Association. has called John A. Giddens, III, New



Orleans, as pastor, effective July 28. A native of Florida, Giddens received his education at Auburn, Ala., and Orleans New Seminary. He previously served in Minter, Atmore, Ala., and Wetumpka, Ala.

youth/music of

Balmoral Church,

Memphis, where Albert W. Wilker-

son is pastor. He

began his ministry

on July 1 after serv-

ing seven years at

Woolmarket

Church, Biloxi. His

new address is 2676

Kirby Road, Mem-

First Church, Petal, has called Tony Daughtry as part-time minister of youth, effective June 30. Tony is a senior at William Carey College in Hattiesburg. W. A. Fordham is pastor.

Stephen White is the new director of education and



White

phis, TN 38119.

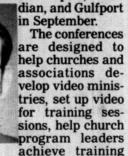
Glendale Church, **Washington Assoc**iation, has called Donald I. Pouns as pastor, effective June 29. He is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was Salem Church,

Raymond.

Video sessions

help churches

"Maximizing Video's Potential in Training" is the title of a series of conferences to be held in Tupelo, Meri-



goals with video, and will offer "One Hundred Uses of Video in Religious Education and Church Programming," according to Farrell Blankenship, director of Broadcast Services Department, MBCB, sponsor of the event.

The three sites for the conferences are Calvary Church, Tupelo, Sept. 16; Lauderdale Association Office, Meridian, Sept. 17; and First Church, Gulfport Sept. 19. Each conference

will be from 7-8:30 p.m.
R. Chip Turner, director of Media Services Department, Louisiana Baptist Convention, will serve as guest conference leader. He is the author of The Church Video Answerbook.

Furloughing missionaries

Mark and Cecile Alexander, Argentina, 919 Reaves Street, Jackson 39204; telephone: 371-2825; arrival 7/91,

Rick and Nedra Carter, Argentina, 07 N. 38th Avenue, Hattiesburg 39401; telephone: 264-2113; arrival 8/90, departure 1/92.

Phil and Laura Dunaway, Brazil, 118 Amberwood Drive, Clinton 39056; telephone: 924-3877; arrival 7/91, departure 7/92.

Paul and Hannah Gay, Ethiopia, 1606 Pear Orchard Place, Jackson 39211; telephone: 957-1394; arrival

James and Dottie Gilbert, Panama, 233 Nicholson Avenue, Waveland 39576; telephone: 466-2908; arrival

4/91, retiring. Felix and Dene Greer, Liberia, 442 Cummins Street, Jackson 39204; telephone: 371-6565; arrival 7/91, departure 1/92.

Betty Hart, Chile, Box 1, Sandy Hook 39478; telephone: 736-3874; arrival 3/91, departure 8/91.

Steven and Minnie Hicks, Mexico, 506 Jeff Davis at Fifth, Long Beach 39560; telephone: 868-8389; arrival 12/90, departure 8/91.

Russell and Melinda Kyzar, Costa Rica, 107 Clinton Blvd., D-2, Clinton 39056; arrival 8/91, departure 7/92.

Frank and Margaret Lay, Costa Rica, 410 Dale, Columbia 39429; telephone: 736-6389; arrival 7/91, departure 6/92. Greg and Karen Massey, Argentina,

438 East 1st Street, Forest 39074; telephone: 469-1069; arrival 6/91, departure 7/92. Keith and

Keith and Penny Stamps, Guatemala, 314 S. 23rd Avenue, Hattiesburg 39401; telephone: 582-3744; arrival 7/91, departure 6/92.

Robert and Beverly Thomas, Yemen, Rt. 2, Box E-1, Senatobia 38668; telephone: 562-8967; arrival 5/91, departure 6/92.

John and Kathy Vaughn, Brazil, 4304 35th Street, Meridian 39301; telephone: 482-0976; arrival 7/91, departure 1/92.

Missionary news

Charles and Netta Boudreaux, missionaries to Windward Islands, are on the field (address: 60 Mt. Pleasant, St. Philip, Barbados, West Indies). He was born in Hattiesburg, and she, the former Netta Richardson, in New Orleans, La. Both consider Pascagoula their hometown.

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Names in the news



Concord Church, Ackerman, ordained two deacons on April 7. They are William Arnold, left, and Doug Wise, right. Charles Gordon, director of missions for Choctaw and Webster presided over the Ordination Council. The deacons and wives studied the book The Ministry of the Baptist Deacon with Jim Yonge and his wife teaching with 18 present. Ralph Cain, pastor, is also pictured.

George Malcolm, a recent graduate of William Carey College, who is entering the new MBA program at William Carey College on the Coast has been named a Chevron Scholar for 1991-92. Malcolm, an honorable mention All-American soccer player from Kingston, Jamaica, was graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Also Amy Flynt, a senior business major from Mt. Olive, has been designated a Chevron Scholarl for 1991-92. The Chevron Scholars awards are made possible through a gift of Chevron USA, Inc. They are part of the work service program at William Carey College.

Baptist Conference Center; David

Fedrick, Bentonia, and Connie Marshall, Grenada, are serving at

Glorieta; Micky Breedlove,

Philadelphia, is your pastor for Kennedy Springs Church, Magee; Dewey Norvell, Lucedale, is volunteering pulpit supply throughout Alaska; and

Tim Myers, Newton, pastor of Good



Trent Sullivan has been licensed to preach by Everett Church, Mendenhall. The pastor, William McWilliams, said, "I highly recommend this young man for supply, or any youth speaking." He may be contacted at 849-5727, his pastor's phone number.



"HOMECOMING '91" at
First Baptist Church, Yazoo City
(328 Grand Avenue At Fourth Street)
And The 30th Anniversary Of The
Ministry of James F. (Jim) Yates,
Pastor

Yates

Sunday, August 18, 1991

* 11:00 A.M. — Morning Worship Service

★ Stirring Inspirational Music by the Choir and Musical Guests

* Recognition of the 1991 "Churchman of the Year"

★ Special Homecoming/Anniversary Features

★ Noon Hour — "Dinne
 ★ 7:00 P.M. — Evening

"Dinner On The Ground"
 Evening Worship Service

Featuring Duo Piano Concert by Carol Joy (Yates) Sparkman and Mike Smith

 All members, former members, former staff members, friends and family are cordially invited to attend



Five couples who are members of First Church, West Point, celebrated their golden wedding anniversaries within the past few months. These couples, with their wedding dates, are, from left: Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Teasley, Feb. 27; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Gandy, June 8; Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Gibson, June 14; Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Dodson, June 15; and Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Parrish, July 5.

Students from Clarke College are providing summer church and mission service in several areas during June, July, and August. Ernie Penton, Pearl River, is on staff at Ridgecrest

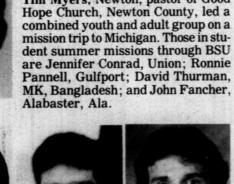


Fedrick

Marshall

Penton

Breedlove





Norvell

Myers

Homecomings

Salem, Raymond: Aug. 11; Sunday School, 10 a.m., worship, 11 a.m., and dinner on grounds; Ronny Robinson, executive director, Baptist Children's Village, Jackson, evangelist.

Concord Church, Ackerman: Aug. 11; services, 11 a.m.; Allen Simpson, Bellefontaine, guest speaker; covered dish in fellowship hall, noon; singing, 1:30 p.m.; no night services; Arlie Holloway and Pam Curry, Houston, music; Ralph Cain, pastor.

Arkadelphia (Lauderdale): homecoming; Aug. 11; John Vaughn of Meridian, guest speaker at 10 a.m. service; lunch in fellowship hall at 12; drama at 1 p.m.; W. T. "Sonny" Carpenter of Shucktown, guest singer. (Vaughn is a former pastor at Arkadelphia who became a missionary to Brazil and is now on his first furlough.) Grover Glenn is pastor.

Center Ridge Church, Yazoo City: Aug. 11; T. C. Pinson, Little Rock, pastored Center Ridge Church, 1962-64, guest speaker; Thad Henley, Picayune, former music director, music; morning worship service followed by covered dish lunch and singing; H. Bryan Abel, pastor; Stephen Bath, minister of music and youth.

Darlove (Washington): Aug. 11; times are 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.; Rip Noble, Rogersville, Tenn., guest speaker; covered dish in fellowship hall, noon; afternoon singing, 1 p.m.; The Cannans, Jackson, guest singers; Bob Gilliland, pastor.

Robinhood, Brandon: Aug. 11; Mike Pennock, former pastor, guest speaker; and Ollen Brown, former music minister, music; fellowship dinner following morning service; Don Nerren, pastor; music minister is Alton Webb.

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Scoper urges Baptists to share faith daily

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) -Southern Baptists have gotten so lax in sharing their faith with non-Christians that daily witnessing is hardly practiced by most church-goers.

That concern, along with challenges to get serious about soul-winning, came from seminar leaders Doyle Pennington and Dell Scoper during the recent Woman's Missionary Union week at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Conference

"Concern for the lost is not a focal point" among Southern Baptists, said Scoper, an associational WMU director from Laurel, Miss., who led a seminar on "How To Share Your Faith

to win one person to Christ, she said.

"God has planted you and me exactly where we are for a reason — and that reason is to share Christ," she English in China

But before Christians can meet needs faithfully in the marketplace, 'you must first meet Christ regular-Scoper said.

Using the parable of the sower in Matthew 13, Scoper challenged the audience to be ready to sow the seeds of the gospel, no matter what condition the "soil" is in.

Just as a gardener wears a hat, Christians need to "make sure we are covered with God's grace," she said. "We need to be willing to get our hands dirty," she added, holding up gardener's gloves

A trowel symbolizes "being willing to dig into circumstances and cut away some time," she said. A watering can illustrates Christians need to "give the seed just the right amount of water it needs," without "drowning" non-Christians with too much too soon, she said.

Christians need to identify the "reasons we're not witnessing," Scoper said, suggesting fear, uncom-

51 assigned to ISC

RICHMOND, Va. — The Foreign Mission Board, SBC, has assigned 51 people to work overseas through the International Service Corps.
Included in that number are 39

Southern Baptists who attended orientation July 22-Aug. 6 at the Missionary Learning Center in Rockville,

The two Mississippians among them are:

Jean Moore: Most recently employed as a teacher at Pelahatchie Attendance Center. Current address: Route 1, Box 281, Morton, Miss. 39117. '47, Ed. Sp. '85; Jackson State University, M.A. '76. Church: Springfield, Morton. Assigned to Cooperative Services International as an Englishlanguage worker in Asia for two

years. Cherise (Mrs. Bruce) Wenger: Macon; Becky Dewett and Web Most recently employed as a nurse at Drake, Clinton; Susan Dodgen, Hat-St. Mary's Hospital, Jefferson City, Mo. Current address: 1108 Lee St., Jefferson City, Mo. 65101. Education: Mississippi College, B.S.N. '84. Achieved registered nurse standing by examination in Mississippi. Church: Concord, Jefferson City. Hometown: Manassas, Va. Assigned as a church and home outreach evangelism worker in Malawi for two years.

fortableness, and idolatry among reasons Christians don't witness

"We are idolaters, right down to the wire," she admonished. "We put families, husband, wife, children even our church and our denomination — before God," she said. "Our focus is not on lost persons. We lack opportunities because we lack focus."

Personal witnessing is simply "sharing Christ with another person and giving that person a chance to confess Christ," Scoper said.
"We have got to start taking this responsibility seriously."

Benson writes for WMU.

in Everyday Living." Today, it takes 43 Southern Baptists Mimi Jean Moore will teach

Mimi Jean Moore was recently commissioned by the Springfield Church, Morton, as a special representative to Anhui Province, China. Mrs. Moore will teach English at Anhui University, Hefei, under Cooperative Services International, Foreign Mission Board, SBC.

Mrs. Moore recently retired from the Rankin County School System. She and her husband, the late Elton Moore, were missionaries to Indonesia for two terms. Mrs. Moore, who in the summer of '90 worked with the Home Mission Board in Rhode Island, will leave for China Aug. 17.

Her address in China will be Foreign Language Department, Anhui University, Hefei, Anhui, P. R. CHINA 230039.

The commissioning service was followed by a reception in Mrs. Moore's honor, provided by the Sunday School class which Mrs. Moore has taught for several years.

It may be true that the willing horse gets the heaviest load, but he also develops the strongest muscles and generally gets the most oats! Badger Lutheran

Mississippians serve at Glorieta, Ridgecrest

NASHVILLE - Nearly 500 summer staffers are taking care of business at Glorieta (N.M.) and Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist conference centers where chores range from servicing bicycles to planting flowers.

Hailing from California to North Carolina and Florida to Minnesota, 241 students, senior adults, and all ages between were hired as 1991 summer staffers at Ridgecrest, and 242 were employed at Glorieta, according

Serving at Glorieta are David Fedrick and Connie Marshall of

Nineteen Mississippians serving at Ridgecrest are: Dave Akin and Hettie Pullen, Jackson; Castle Coleman, tiesburg; Debra Dodson, Shannon; Shirley Herring, Natchez; Melissa Hutcheson and Heather Nicholson, Greenville; Amy Laird, Lake; Tina-Sims, Rienzi; Misty Smith, Blue Mountain; Rich Smith, Poplarville; Georgia Spence, Carriere; Kerry Swinford, Greenwood; Tammy Taylor, Corinth; Karen Tobias of Biloxi; and Mackie Wells of Poplarville.

Just for the Record



Poplar Springs Church, Mendenhall, recently burned the note on its educational building. The original building costs were \$61,596. A total of \$46,600 was borrowed to finance the building. It was paid off with interest some eight months before its due date. Pictured, left to right, are building committee members Betty Lee, L. E. Ponder, Roy May, Pat Fewell, Benny Still, pastor, Howard Fewell, Tom Winningham, and Kelly Lee. Not pictured are Nathan Smith, George Ponder, and A. D. May who served



An Acteen Recognition Service was held during youth week, April 28, at Main Street Church, Hattiesburg. Pictured first row, from left, are Angela Inserra, Leslie Levy, Jennifer Lott; second row, Leanna Barfield, Kelly Tucker, Jennifer Carpenter, Julianna Wise, Shannon Kelly, Jennifer Connor, Laura Barfield, Jennifer Dowies, Shellye Emfinger; third row, Kelly Oliver, Paula Sims, Jennifer Bernhardt, Laura Lee, Natalie Hall, Jennie McCrory, Glynessa Hinton, Sherrae Lott, Lori Huber, and Sona



Fellowship Church, Bellefontaine, sponsored a Mission Friends Day Camp at Dorroh Lake Assembly on June 18. The theme was "Missions Around the World." Six churches in Webster Association were represented. Allen Simpson is pastor of Fellowship Church



A recognition service was held recently for the GAs at Bethany Church in Prentiss. Pictured, left to right, first row, are Missy Burrow, Amy Burrow, Brooke Hollingsworth, Misty Burrow; second row, Karen Polk, Tiffani Coquat, Cindy Witte, Lacy Taylor, Leslie Hall, Tiffany Ward; third row, Kristi Langston, Amy Polk, Tracy Rogers, Kholeen Clemts, Julie Smith, and Megan Miller. The leaders are Joyce Hall and Brenda

First Church, Houlka, will feature Elmo Mercer in concert, Aug. 11, at 7 p.m. Rick Burton is pastor.

The WMU of Yalobusha Association will host a Baptist Women's Prayer Retreat, Saturday, Sept. 7, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the home of Shirley Berry in Water Valley. Speakers will be Brian Cunningham and his wife. They have recently returned from a lay mission trip to Japan through the Foreign Mission Board. Mahayle Hames will lead in song service and Shirley Berry will bring the special music. Mary McKinney, Associational Baptist Women's director, will lead the

Pecan Grove Church, Ellisville, will have a spaghetti supper, Aug. 10, 5-8 p.m., adults, \$3.50 and children, \$1.50, dine in or take out.

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How to stay revived — stay close to the source

By Kiely D. Young Nehemiah 9

Summer is a time of scheduled revival for many churches across the south. This has been a tradition for decades. We have a revival



Nehemiah 9 relates a similar experience sur-rounding the Feast of the

Tabernacles during the seventh month. Following seven days of celebration, they gathered for a solemn assembly. They had just experienced true revival; now they were trying to preserve that revival. Nehemiah 9 gives prac-tical suggestions to maintain that 'revival relationship' with the Lord.

YOU HAVE TO KEEP A CLEAN HEART. We believe the security of the believer to give assurance of salvation, but that does not guarantee we will never sin again. Nehemiah and the sons of Israel realized this as well. Verse 1 tells us they renewed their consecration to the Lord: "the sons of Israel assembled with fasting, in sackcloth and with dirt upon them."

UNIFORM

This was to keep a conscious awareness of commitment to God and protection against the

We too must realize our needs of continual consecration, because the enemy is waiting to attack. Every time there is an outpouring of the power of God in revival, we can count on an attack of Satan in rebuttal. Paul wrote in Galatians "walk in the Spirit and you will not carry out the deeds of the flesh." If we are abiding in Christ and understand that our power comes from him and not from us, then we can walk in continuous victory.

Verse 2 tells us they were wiling to confess their mistakes: "they stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers." Just as they had consecrated their lives, they had to make sure they had no unconfessed sin. They could not go on in the future with God while harboring sins of the past.

Such is also true for Christians. Unconfessed sin will always interfere with our relationship with God. We must remember I John 1:9, "If we will confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sin and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Paul relates to this struggle in Romans 7:14 and following. We battle between our sin nature and our spiritual nature. It is only when we submit to Christ daily that we find victory.

In verse 3 we discover the need of continuous worship: "they read from the book of the law for a fourth of the day; and for another fourth of the day confessed and worshipped their God." Consecration, confession, and then celebration! That sets a strong example for all of us. They set aside a time of celebration to praise and glorify God for the victory of rebuilding the wall, revival in their midst, and renewal in their worship. This is much like that chorus, "I don't know what you came to do, but I just came to praise the Lord?"

YOU MUST ALSO REMEMBER YOUR CALLING. Nehemiah 9:5-38 is the longest recorded prayer in the Bible. This prayer of Nehemiah and the Levites reflected on who they were as God's people and the blessings given them because of who they were. Their reflection resulted in continual praise: "Arise, bless the Lord your God forever and ever. Oh may thy glorious name be blessed and exalted above all blessing and praise."

Their look at their past reminded them of God's continuous protection. They remembered God as creator and sustainer, as caller of Abram and a covenant of promise, as deliverer from Egyptian bondage and divine provider in the wilderness. Yet in all of God's provision, they became disobedient. "Nevertheless, in thy great compassion thou didst not make an end of them, for thou art a gracious and compassionate God" (v. 31).

It is not hard to complain about hard times, but it is much more appropriate to count our blessings of good times. We will find our blessings far outstretch our problems. The hymn writer states it well: "Count your many blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done."

FOLLOW THROUGH WITH YOUR COM-MITMENTS. In verses 32-38 Nehemiah recognizes the value of continued commitment to God. The walls of Jerusalem had crumbled because of neglect and disobedience. Nehemiah had now been obedient to bring restoration as

God desired. They recognized God's awesomeness and their frailty (v. 32).

The recognized their total dependency upon God in a distressful situation and the need for continual fellowship. "Thou art just in all that has come upon us; for thou has dealt faithfully, but we have acted wickedly" (v. 33). If their forefathers had been obedient and maintained loyalty to the laws of God, they would have experienced God's blessings. Instead, they suffered God's wrath.

It is easy to be spiritual during a week of retreat or revival, but the true test comes as we "come down from the mountaintop" and tace daily struggles. God promises to provide all we need. We just have to stay close to the

Young is pastor of First Church, Greenville.

Solomon's turning from God brings judgment — if you play, you pay

By Randy W. Turner

1 Kings 11:1-43 If you play, you pay. I have heard it all my life. If you dance to music, you must pay the piper. If you play with matches, you are going to get burned. It is a recurr-



ing theme in the scripture. Sin has its consequences. Rebellion against God

brings judgment. The scripture never blinks at the defects of its heroes. Its portraits do not smooth out wrinkles but with absolute fidelity give all faults. That pitiless truthfulness is no small proof of the inspiration of the scripture. If these

historical books were simply fragments of national records owning no higher source than patriotism, they would never have blurted out the errors and sins of David and Solomon as they do. Solomon's fall is told in the same frank way as his wisdom and wealth. For what is of importance is not Solomon so much as God's dealing with Solomon when his heart was turn-

I. You play (I Kings 11:4-8). Solomon turned away from God. The lessons of Solomon's fall

BIBLE BOOK

are many. First, it teaches the destructive effect of yielding to sensual indulgence. Solomon's unbridled and monstrous polygamy sapped his manhood and his principle, darkened his clear spirit, blinded his keen eye, and turned a youth of noble aspiration and a manhood of noble accomplishment into an old age without dignity, reverence, or calm. All of his wisdom was worth little if it could not keep him master of himself. A young man who lets his passions run away with him is less to be condemned than an old sensualist. God means that reason should govern impulse and desires and that conscience should govern all and be governed by his will. The vessel is sure to be wrecked when the officers are sent below and the mutineers get hold of the helm.

Second, it warns us that until the very end of life a fall is possible. This ship went down when the voyage ws nearly over. In sight of port it struck craggy rocks and that not for want of beacons. What a pathetic warning lies in that phrase, "when Solomon was old" (I Kings 11:4). After so many years of high aims, so many

temptations overcome, with such habits of wisdom and kingly nobility, after such prayers and visions, he fell. And if he fell, who can be sure of standing? No length of life spent in holy thoughts and service secures us against the possibility of a disastrous fall. Only one thing does. "Hold thou me up and I shall be saved"

II. You pay (I Kings 11:11-13). Divine retribution was announced. The immediate connection of sin and punishment is the teaching intended by the two halves of our narrative. However long the chastisement may be in coming, the divine resolve to send it is instantaneously consequent on the crime. How gravely, as with the voice of an indictment drawn in heaven, the aggravations of Solomon's crime are set out in that he had sinned against the Lord who had appeared to him twice, once in his youthful vision and once after the completion of the temple. Sin is made more heinous by the abundance of God's favors and the plainness of his commands. If we would remember God's appearances to us and for us and meditate on his revealed will, we should be more impregnable

to the assaults of temptation.

What a lesson as to God's great patience we see here. What a glimpse into man's power to work counter to God's purpose. So soon after its establishment did the house of David prove 21worthy. Yet that longsuffering purpose is noturned aside but persistently and patiently on in its way (I Kings 11:29-32).

Behind the figure of Solomon we see another. The wisest of men fell, shamefully captured by coarse lust and apparently steeled against al pleading from heaven. "A greater than Solomor. is here" (Matthew 2:42). The faults of the human kings of Israel prophesy of the true king who is to be the substance of which they were but faint shadows and whose manhood was sus tained by no flaw nor his kingdom ever tor from his pure hands.

Solomon was wise but Christ is "Wisdom." Solomon built a temple but also altars to false gods. His temple was burned with fire but Christ is the true Temple as well as Priest and Sacrifice. Solomon was by name "the peaceful." His land had outward, rest though it was darkened at last by war and rebellion. But Christ is the Prince of Peace and of his dominion there shall be no end. Solomon is the great example of the sad truth that the loftiest and wisest share in the universal sinfulness. Christ is the one flawless man who makes those who take him for their king wise and peaceful, prosperous and in due time sinless like himself.

Turner is pastor, Parkway Church, Natchez.

Partnership missions: 'It's worth it'.

By Tony Gray

determine if being involved in any given project or endeavor, be it secular or spiritual in nature, is cost-productive. Do the ends justify the nership missions project.

Is it "worth it" to have American

volunteers leave their homes and workplaces, many times taking their vacations; spend their money to pay for passage, room, and board for over a week; and be involved in various types of projects that require an interpreter and much flexibility? Is it worth it to have missionaries on the field spend time and energy being in-volved in partnership projects? Is it

I realize that the question is a bit subjective, but I believe the answer lies with the ones who have already been involved in these projects - the volunteers, the missionaries, and the

Every good administrator must nationals who have been the recietermine if being involved in any pients of their ministry.

Through my participation in the Kentucky — Espirito Santo, Brazil, Baptist partnership as the field coormeans? These same questions, and dinator, I have seen the results of part-many others, must be asked when considering being involved in a part-American volunteers and the nationals.

> So, as a missionary who is involved in partnership missions, perhaps I can share my opinion as to the answer to the question, "Is it worth it?"
>
> • I have had the privilege of seeing

> scores of volunteers come to Brazil to minister to people and at the close of their project with tear-filled eyes share how the Lord has blessed and changed their lives because of the missions experience.

> I have seen hundreds of nationals come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

· I have seen churches transform-

ed as a result of church members

recommitting their lives to the cause there to do the sowing?" My response of Christ

 I have had many national pastors and church leaders express their heartfelt appreciation and gratefulness for God having sent volunteers their way.

· My family and I, as well as our missionary colleagues, have received tremendous blessings from our partnership missions project.

Involvement in missions means changed lives for all who participate.

The effect of partnership missions is long-term. It's an investment. Results of partnership missions can and will be seen for years to come. Seeds planted by volunteers will be watered by someone else, and then harvested by yet another. That's the way it is in God's work.

Oh, but one could say, "Couldn't that seed be planted by someone already on the field rather than have an American volunteer go all the way would be, "Only in eternity will we

However, if we wait for the answer there, we run the risk of missing a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share with people the good news of Jesus Christ. I'm not willing to run that risk. Are you?

So, what is my answer to the question, "Is it worth it?" Yes, my brother and sister it is Christ, is it worth it! Get involved in partnership missions, and then you will be able to answer that question for yourself. And I'm sure your answer will be the same as mine!

Tony Gray, a Southern Baptist missionary in Vitoria, Espirito Santo, Brazil, is the on-site coordinator for the Brazil-Kentucky Baptist partner-

Gray's parents, Bill and Nell Gray, are members of Johnson Creek Church near Leakesville, Miss.

LIFE AND WORK Sunday School lesson did not arrive by press time. It will be continued next week.

Revival dates

11-16; Sun., 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Jimmy D. Porter, First, McComb, evangelist; John David Kendall, Parkway, Houston, music; Lawrence Runnels, pastor.

Woolmarket, Biloxi: Aug. 11-14; W. D. "Step" Martin and Billy Crosby, both of Shreveport, La. and Randall Poss, Maben, evangelists; Billy Crosby Family, music; 11 a.m., 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 6:45 p.m.; M. L. Faler, pastor.

Lot's of folks seem to tolerate poverty easily - usually they're the ones who aren't in it.

capsules (

WORSE FAMINE IN HORN OF AFRICA'S HISTORY THREATENS 12 MILLION: KHARTOUM, Sudan (EP) - Political instability in the Horn of Africa has complicated what is the region's worst famine in history where 12 million face starvation, experts say. International observers agree that the famine conditions are the worst in the history of Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somalia. Large scale assistance is coming to the region from Christian agencies in the West, including, among others, Mercy Corps International and Samaritan's Purse. Samaritan's Purse has shipped 500 metric tons of grain and 10 metric tons of canola oil to Ethiopia, where civil war recently ended with the overthrow of the government by rebel troops. The suffering has been complicated with the influx of more Ethiopian refugees in the north and Sudanese returnees from southern Ethiopia who have fled the recent political instability there. Voluntary agencies are establishing clinics and nutrition centers in the campus. The Sudan Council of Churches, Fellowship for African Relief, Sudan Call, and other Christian organizations are distributing commodities from Mercy Corps around Khartoum, Omdurman, and other regions of the country.

TEN NEW CHURCHES, GOAL FOR THAILAND: The Thailand Baptist Mission, working with the Thailand Baptist Churches Association, has set a goal of establishing 10 new churches of 100-plus members by the year 2000, according to Maxine Stewart, missionary press representative, in Bangkok and other key cities. In the predominantly Buddhist country, only five Thai Baptist churches with more than 100 members have resulted from 40 years of missionary labor. The main focus will be directed to reaching business and professional people who can form the solid nucleus of strong, self-sustaining, reproducing churches, said Stewart. Teams of missionaries and Thai nationals will be formed to give maximum effort to this work, and a highly visible place for ministry and worship will be sought for each new church. Several Thai home missionaries have been added in recent years. Now the Thailand Baptist Mission is also requesting three more urban church planters for immediate appointment to Thailand.

EVANGELIZING THE HARD TO REACH" will be the theme of a two day conference held at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Sept. 30-Oct. 2. Cosponsored by the Billy Graham Center for World Evangelism and the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board, the conference is offered for pastors, directors of missions, lay persons, and staff members. Featured speakers will include: Rick Warren, pastor of Saddlebrook Valley Community Church. Orange County, Calif.; Oscar Romo, director of HMB Language Church Extension Division; Charles Rossel, pastor of First Church, Leesburg, Fla.; Tillie Burgin, minister of missions, First Church, Arlington, Tex.; and Taylor Field, pastor of East Seventh Church, New York City. Conference fee is \$75, and limited scholarships are available through the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board on a "first-come, first-served" basis. The fee will include materials, registration, and four meals. For registration and scholarship information, call the seminary at 1-800-626-5525.

UKRAINIAN BIBLE SOCIETY FOUNDED: NEW YORK, July 5, 1991 (ABS) — The Ukrainian Bible Society has become the latest Bible Society to be founded in the Soviet Union. On June 22, in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, 79 delegates from a broad range of churches unanimously adopted statutes, based on the model provided by the United Bible Societies, to establish the Ukrainian Bible Society.

DILLARD TAKES NEW POST WITH RTVC: FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Douglas "Doug" Dillard has been appointed vice president for external relations of the Radio and Television Commission, effective Aug. 1. Also on Aug. 1, Dillard from Garland, Texas, begins his 24th year as editorial cartoonist for the Baptist Standard, Texas Baptists' weekly newsjournal. In the newly-created post at the RTVC, Dillard, 62, will be responsible for development, public relations, and counseling. Married 38 years, he's the father of three grown children. He is a deacon and Bible teacher at First Church, Richardson.

HARVEY ASSUMES LEADERSHIP ROLE AT CAREY: Major General Paul Harvey will join William Carey College in an executive leadership role effective Sept. 1, following his retirement as commander of Keesler Air Force base in Biloxi. Harvey is being appointed as a special assistant to the president and executive-in-residence on that date. His role will be primarily related to foundation and major gift support for the college, including its new MBA program in executive leadership. He will also teach management and leadership courses. He and his wife, Lynne, have chosen Gulfport as their permanent residence. He holds a master's degree in management from Central Michigan University and a bachelor of business degree from Miami University in Ohio. He entered the Air Force in 1959 and has served throughout the world, including a number of assignments in Washington, D.C. Notably, before taking command at Keesler he was the commander of the 322nd Airlift Division and the deputy chief of staff for airlift forces, U.S. Air Forces in Europe. General Harvey is a command pilot with over 5,000 flying hours in various aircraft including 160 combat missions in Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand.

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD BEGINS TOLL-FREE INFORMATION LINE: RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Southern Baptists now can dial a toll-free telephone number, 1-800-866 — FMB1, for information about foreign missions. The 800 line will offer information about missionaries, their addresses and countries where they work, mission service opportunities, and mission products for use in churches. It also will feature seasonal or topical information, such as mission emphases during the fall when churches highlight the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions. Southern Baptists wanting current mission prayer requests should continue to call the board's toll-free PrayerLine, 1-800-395-PRAY.

Jackson pastor teaches how to live in victory, grow in God

By Shannon T. Simpson

For many people, having their fingers in too many pies is an exercise in frustration. Not so for Claude Townsend, pastor of the small Metro Baptist Church in south Jackson, and president and founder of the American School of Counseling

To the former president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, staying busy with many ministries is the way to allow the Lord to work through him.

In addition to the responsibilities of a pastorate and the counseling school, Townsend counsels privately with clients, travels to counsel with others outside Mississippi, teaches at the Immanuel Baptist Theological Seminary (a privately-funded Baptist seminary) in Atlanta once a month, and oversees nationwide involvement of fellows with the All-India Prayer Fellowship (which has 1,600 native missionaries) and its Bible Institute, from which he holds an honorary doctorate. He also conducts seminars for pastors on counseling and renéwal, and organizes Christian Support groups based on Scripture and the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. On top of that, he maintains a resource library made available to ASC and Immanuel Seminary students many of the video tapes in the library were made by Townsend himself. Then, there are the books Townsend has written — a counseling series of 23 which will soon be translated into Korean and Spanish, already printed

in Indic languages.

Townsend says he does all these things and more, not only to teach people how to win others to the Lord, but "how to live a life in victory." One of the courses he teaches is titled "How to Live in Victory," and includes the principles of dealing with guilt, acceptance, and fasting.

Living in victory is a very real bat-

We need to . . . praise the Lord .by what we ARE, not just what we DO. — Townsend

tle for most Christians and some members of Metro Church. The membership of 50 grew out of the counseling center's clientele. Many joined Metro Church after working to overcome dysfunctional family backgrounds. The congregation has had 20 professions of faith and baptized nine since January 1.

The church was organized in April 1989, and emphasizes discipling through a unique program called "spiritual parenting," implemented among the membership. Based on the activity of the first century church, Townsend says the program works to disciple new members through one-on-one relationships, similar to a "sponsorship," in accordance with 2



Claude and Louise Townsend

Timothy 2:2. Metro Church also hosts 2-3 Christian support groups meetings weekly

"We are all so busy. We have to realize that we can't do without being," says Townsend. Citing Ephesians 1:12, he says we need to simply be to the praise of his glory; to praise the Lord by what we are, not only by what we do.

That message is central to what Townsend would like to teach pastors and others who counsel. "There is too much emphasis on ministering to someone else, not ourselves," he says. Baptists and Baptist pastors are particularly vulnerable to neglecting their own needs, because of the focus on evangelizing others.

"We keep up with the three B's, (baptisms, building, and budgets) and we lose the internal growth. We need as much internal growth as we do external growth."

To that end, ASC offers correspondence courses for certification, licensing, or instructor's level programs. The courses are transferrable to Immanuel Seminary, so students can also earn bachelors', masters', or doctoral degrees.

toral degrees.

"Half the people who come through the school do so to resolve their own conflicts," Townsend says. "The two main goals of the school are to help people resolve their own conflicts, and to help them deal with the conflicts of others."

Townsend believes this attention to personal growth is part of the process of putting off the old man, putting on the new man of Ephesians 4:22-24. Speaking of the church in general, he says, "We need to be more open, according to James 5:16. The closer we are to God, the more transparent we become. But that is what Christ's sacrifice did for us — made us acceptable to him, enabling us to put on the new man."

This is the major objective of Townsend's ministries, he claims. With courses, seminars, resource materials, correspondence studies, Christian support groups, and private practice for applying the biblical principles of an intimate relationship with Christ and relationships with others, Townsend hopes that God will achieve through him the task of making every Christian a "counselor."

How to handle disappointment

By Louis Lamar

Disappointment in life is as certain as death and paying taxes. It inevitably will happen to everyone. It could be the kid dropping his triple dip ice cream cone as he steps outside of Baskin Robbins, or Mom's cake that she is baking

outside of Baskin Robbins, or Mom's cake that she is baking for her daughter's birthday falls and the party is only minutes away, or perhaps the raise that would permit the purchase of your first new home doesn't materialize because of budget cuts. The scenarios are endless. But how do we respond when our bubble has been busted, when our expectations were at their zenith?

Perhaps Paul has a word for us today on how we should

Perhaps Paul has a word for us today on how we should respond to disappointment. Paul, after all, became somewhat of an expert on handling disappointment. After the church in Antioch commissioned Paul and Barnabas for missionary service, disappointment seemed to lurk around every corner waiting for him.

As Paul began his second missionary journey, he and Barnabas disagreed over taking John Mark, causing a painful split and disappointment. After this split, we find Paul beaten and imprisoned in Philippi, chased out of Thessalonica, and just when things appear to be improving in Berea, he is on the skids again. We now find Paul alone in Athens, obviously disappointed. He only ended up in Macedonia because of his obedience to the Holy Spirit, and nothing has gone right since. Paul is now in Athens disappointed and with a wounded spirit when he notices that Athens is wholly given over to idolatry.

Paul looked past his personal problems to his commitment to the Lord. Paul went to the synagogue and began talking with the Jews and Gentiles he found there (Acts 17:16-29). It wasn't long before Paul again began "street witnessing." It was while in Athens, in a depressed state, that Paul preached his famous sermon on Mars Hill.

When disappointment and depression compete for the portals of our minds, we should remember whose we are, and remember that no problem is too big for our God.

Lamar is pastor, Mount Sinai Church, Tupelo.

